

THIRTY MINOR UPANISHADS

TRANSLATED BY

K. NĀRĀYANASVĀMI AIYAR

Translator of

Laghu Yoga Vāsishtha, Vāsuḍevamanana

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FOREWORD

For the first time it is, I believe, that the English translation of so many as 30 Upanishads is being put forth before the public in a collected form. Among the Hindū Scriptures, the Vedas hold the pre-eminent place. The Upanishads which are culled from the Āraṇyaka-portions of the Vedas—so-called because they were read in the Aranya (forest) after the learner had given up the life of the world—are regarded as the Vedānta, or the end or final crown of the Vedas. Vedānta is also the end of all knowledge, since the word Vedas means according to its derivation 'knowledge'. Rightly were the Upanishads so considered, since their knowledge led a person to Ātmā, the goal of life. The other portion of the Vedas, viz., Samhitas and Brāhmaṇas, conferred upon a man, if he should conform to the requisite conditions, the mastery of the Universe only which is certainly inferior to Ātmā. It is these Upanishads that to the western philosopher Schopenhauer were the "solace of life".

There are now extant, in all, 108 Upanishads, of which the principal or major 12 Upanishads commented upon by Śrī Śaṅkarāchārya and others were translated into English by Dr Roer and Rāja Rājendra Lāl Miṭra and re-translated by Max Muller in his "Sacred Books of the East," together with one other Upanishad called *Maṇḍūkya*. Of the rest, 95 in number, two or three Upanishads have appeared in English up to now, but never so many as are here presented to the public, so far as I am aware.

Many years ago, the late Sundara Sāstrī, a good Sanscrit Scholar and myself worked together to put into English garb the Upanishads that had not been attempted before, and

succeeded in publishing most of those which are here gathered in the monthly issues of *The Theosophist*. The Kārmic agents willed that my late co-worker should abandon his physical garment at a premature age. Then I resolved upon throwing up my worldly business of pleading the cause of clients before the bench for that of pleading the cause of God before the public. The incessant travel in that cause since then for over 18 years from place to place in all parts of India left me no leisure until now to republish all the above translations in a book form. But when this year a little rest was afforded me, I was able to revise them as well as add a few more. I am conscious of the many faults from which this book suffers and have no other hope in it than that it will serve as a piece of pioneer work, which may induce real Yogins and scholars to come into the field and bring out a better translation.

There are many editions of the Upanishads to be found in Calcutta, Bombay, Poona, South India and other places. But we found that the South Indian editions, which were nearly the same in Telugu or Grantha characters, were in many cases fuller and more intelligible and significant. Hence we adopted for our translation South Indian editions. The edition of the 108 Upanishads which the late Tukaram Tatya of Bombay has published in Devanāgarī characters approaches the South Indian edition. As the South Indian edition of the Upanishads is not available for the study of all, I intend to have the recensions of that edition printed in Devanāgarī characters, so that even those that have a little knowledge of Sanskrit may be able to follow the original with the help of this translation.

Transliteration

In the transliteration of Sanskrit letters into the English alphabet certain difficulties present themselves. Let me take first the letter ण. There are three letters in Sanskrit ण, ण, and ण. These are differently pronounced and one should not be confounded with another. For the first letter we have the English equivalent *ṇ* and for the last *ṣh*. But for the second one we

have none whatsoever. The prominent writers in the field of Theosophy have been transliterating this letter into *Sh* Hence in writing the word क़ाशि they made it *Kāshi* in the English language. They utter it also in the same manner. To a South Indian ear, it is rather grating. The mantras especially depend for their efficacy upon proper pronunciation. When we therefore utter the words wrongly, there is committed according to Sanscrit writers, Varna-Hatya-Dosha or the sin of the murder of letters or words. In my translation I have represented the letter क़ by *S* and not by *Sh*, since I consider the latter to be a mistake. Other transliterations are —

आ ई ऊ ऋ ॠ ऌ ॡ ढ ण त थ द ध ङ

ā ī ū R N Ñ TThDDhN TThD DhI, It would be well if our

leaders of thought conferred together and came to some agreement upon the question of transliteration

The Order of the Upanishads

The Upanishads translated have been classified under the headings of (1) Vedānta, (2) Physiology, (3) Mantra, (4) Sannyāsa and (5) Yoga. But these are not hard and fast divisions. For instance in the Sannyāsa and Yoga Upanishads, mantras also are given. But in the Māntvic Upanishads, Mantras alone are given.

Vedānta and Yoga Upanishads

The Upanishads that come under the headings of Vedānta and Yoga are the most important. But it is the latter Upanishads that are most occult in their character, since it is they that give clues to the mysterious forces located in nature and man, as well as to the ways by which they may be conquered. With reference to Vedānta, the ancient teachers thereof have rightly ordained that none has the right to enter upon a study of it, unless he has mastered to a slight degree at least the Sādhana-Chatustaya, or four means of salvation. He should not only be convinced in theory of the fact that Ātmā

is the only Reality, and all else are but the ephemeral things of the world, but he should also have outgrown in practice the craving for such transitory worldly things besides he should have developed a fair mastery over the body and the mind. A non-compliance with these precedent conditions leads men into many anomalies. The orthodox and the clever without any practice are placed in a bad predicament through a study of these Upanishads. In such Upanishads as *Maitreya* and others, pilgrimages to holy places, the rituals of the Hindūs, ceremonial impurities at the time of birth and death, Mantras, etc., are made light of. To the orthodox that are blind and strict observers of rites and ceremonies, statements like these give a rude shock. Hence Upanishads are not meant for persons of this stamp. Nor are they intended for mere intellectual people who have no knowledge of practice about them, and are immersed in the things of the world. Some of us are aware of the manner in which men with brains alone have made a travesty of the doctrine of *Māyā*. Not a few clever but unprincipled persons actually endeavour to justify arguments of all kinds of dissipation and wrong conduct by the assertion that it is all *Māyā*. The old Rshis were fully aware of the fact that Vedānta would be desecrated by those that had not complied with its precedent conditions. Only when the desires and the self are overcome and the heart is made pure, or as Upanishadic writers put it, the heart-knot is broken, only then the *Ātmā* in the heart will be truly realised and then it is that the *Ātmā* in all universe is realised also, the universe being then seen as *Māyā*. But so long as the *Ātmā* in the heart is not realised through living the life, the universe will not be realised as *Māyā*, and "God everywhere" will be but in words.

One special point worthy of notice in the Upanishads is that all the knowledge bearing upon a subject is not put forward in one and the same place. We have to wade through a mass of materials and a number of Upanishads, ere we can have a complete view of a subject. In modern days when a subject is taken up, all the available information is given in one place in a systematic manner. But not so in the Upanishads.

Take the subject of Prāṇas which refer to life itself. In one Upanishad, one piece of information is given, another in another and so on. And unless we read them all together and reconcile the seemingly discrepant statements, we cannot have a complete and clear knowledge of the subject. This process was adopted by the Rshis, probably because they wanted to draw out thereby the intellectual and spiritual faculties latent in the disciple, and not to make him a mere automaton. In these days when knowledge is presented in a well-assimilated form, it is no doubt taken up easily but it does not evoke the latent reasoning power so much. When therefore the disciple went in the ancient days to the teacher for the solution of a difficulty, having been unable to find it himself after hard thinking, it was understood easily and permanently because of the previous preparation of the mind, and was also reverently appreciated as a boon and godsend, because of the difficulty previously experienced. The function of the teacher was not only to explain the difficult points to the taught, but also to make him realise those things of which understanding was sought. As an illustration, we might take the case of the soul. The Guru not only explained the difficult passages or points relating to the soul, but also made the disciple leave the body or bodies and realise himself as the soul. As we cannot get such Gurus in the outer world nowadays, the only thing left to do instead is to secure the publication of simple treatises on matters of Vedānta and Yoga for the benefit of the public. I hope, I shall before long be able to make a start in this direction.

In studying the Upanishads on Vedānta and Yoga, we find certain peculiarities which throw a light on their greatness. Both of them lay stress upon certain centres in the human body for development. The 12 major Upanishads as well as the Vedānta Upanishads herein published deal with the heart and the heart alone, while the Yoga Upanishads treat of many centres including the heart. For the purpose of simplification, all the centres may be divided under the main headings of head, heart and the portion of the body from the navel downwards.

But why? The key which will unlock these secrets seems to be this. All religions postulate that the real man is the soul, and that the soul has to reach God. Christianity states that God created the soul in His own image and that the soul has to rise to the full stature of God in order to reach Him. Hindūism says that Jīvātmā (the human soul) is an Amsa or portion of Paramātmā, or God, which is to eventually unfold the powers of God, and compares it with a ray of the sun of God, or a spark out of the fire of God. In all religions, there is an unanimity of opinion that the soul is a likeness of God, having God's powers in latency to be unfolded hereafter. Let us therefore first understand the attributes of God. He is said to have omnipresence, omniscience and omnipotence. Hindūism translates these ideas into Sat, Chit and Ānanda. They are eternal existence, infinite knowledge, and unlimited power. The soul identifying itself with the body thinks it lives for the life-term of the body only, cooped up by the brain, it imagines, it has only the knowledge circumscribed by the brain, carried away by the pleasures of the senses, it whirls about in the midst of them as if they constituted the Real Bliss. But when it wakes up from the dream of the lower things of the body and glances upwards to the higher world of Spirit, it discovers its delusions and finds itself to be of the same nature as the God above, who is eternal, all-knowing and all-powerful. And this discovery has to be made by each soul in the human body, in which it is functioning, through the three main centres of head, heart and navel. Through the heart, it cuts the heart-knot and realises its all-pervading character when it realises its eternity of existence, through the brain, it rises beyond it through its highest seat, viz., Sahasrārā which corresponds to the pineal gland in the physical body, and obtains its omniscience, through the navel, according to the Upanishads—it obtains a mastery over that mysterious force called Kundalinī which is located therein, and which confers upon it an unlimited power—that force being mastered only when a man rises above Kāma or passion. But this is the first step towards the goal when conquered lead to the attainment of self. When will is developed to a great degree,

naturally great power, or omnipotence, ensues. our statement is that Kundalinī when conquered leads to unlimited powers and perfections, or Siddhis like Animā, etc., and that Kuṇḍalinī can only be conquered through rising above the desires of the senses.

From the foregoing it is clear that the Vedānta Upanishads are intended only for those devotees of God that want to have a development of the heart mainly, and not of the brain and the navel, and that the Yogic Upanishads are intended for those that want to have an all-round development of the soul in its three aspects. Here I may remark that Śrī Śaṅkarācārya and other commentators commented upon the 12 Upanishads only, since other Upanishads treating of Kundalinī, etc., are of an occult character and not meant for all, but only for the select few who are fit for private initiation. If they had proceeded to comment upon the minor Upanishads also, they would have had to disclose certain secrets which confer powers and which are not meant, therefore, for all. It would be nothing but fatal to the community, were the secrets leading to the acquisition of such powers imparted indiscriminately to all. In the case of dynamite, the criminal using it may be traced, since it is of a physical nature, but in the case of the use of the higher powers, they are set in motion through the will, and can never be traced through ordinary means. Therefore in the Upanishad called *Yoga-Kundalinī*, the final truths that lead to the realisation of the higher powers are said to be imparted by the Guru alone to the disciple who has proved himself worthy after a series of births and trials.

In order to expound the Upanishads, especially those that bear upon Yoga, some one who is a specialist in Yoga—better still, if he is an Adept—should undertake the task of editing and translating them. The passages in Yoga Upanishads are very mystic sometimes, sometimes there is no nominative or verb, and we have to fill up the ellipses as best as we can.

One more remark may be made with reference to the Upanishads. Each Upanishad is said to belong to one of the Vedas. Even if we take the 12 Upanishads edited by Max Müller and others, we find some of them are to be found in the existing

Vedas and others not. Why is this? In my opinion this but corroborates the statement made by the *Vishnu-Purāna* about the Vedas. It says that at the end of each Dwāpara Yuga, a Veda-Vyāsa, or compiler of the Vedas, incarnates as an Avatāra of Vishṇu—a minor one—to compile the Vedas. In the Yugas preceding the Kali Yuga we are in, the Vedas were “one” alone though voluminous. Just before this Kali Yuga began, Krshṇa-Dwaipāyana Veda-Vyāsa incarnated, and, after withdrawing the Vedas that were not fit for this Yuga and the short-lived people therein, made with the aid of his disciples a division of the remaining portions into four. Hence perhaps we are unable to trace the Vedas of which some of the extant Upanishads form part.

ADYAR, *March* 1914.

K NARAYANASWAMI

MUKTIKOPANISHAD

OF

S'UKLA-YAJURVEDA

ANHYĀYA I

ADDRESSING with devotion and obedience Śrī-Rāma—the Lord Hari, at the end of His Samādhi, who being Himself changeless is the witness of the thousands of changes of Buddhi, and who ever rests in Swarūpa-Dhyāna (the meditation on Reality) while seated under the bejewelled dome of the palace in the lovely city of Ayodhyā, in the midst of Sitā, Bharata and Soumitra (Lakshmana) Śaṭrughna and others, eulogised day and night by Sanaka and other hosts of Munis, as well as by Vasiṣṭha, Śuka, and other devotees of Viṣṇu—Hanūmān, after praising them, asked “O Rāma, Thou art Paramātmā of the nature of Sachchidānanda O foremost of the family of Raghu, I make prostrations to Thee again and again O Rāma, I wish to know for the sake of emancipation, Thy nature as it really is O Rāma, be Thou gracious enough to tell me that by which I shall be easily released from the bondage of mundane existence and by which I shall attain salvation”

(Śrī-Rāma replied) “O mighty-armed one, well asked hearken then to the truth uttered by Me I am well established in Vedānta (or the end of Vedas or knowledge) Have thou recourse to Vedānta well”

(Hanūmān again asked) “O foremost of Raghus, what are Vedāntas? where do they abide? Pray enlighten me.” (Śrī-Rāma replied) “O Hanūmān, listen to Me I shall truly describe

to you the nature of Vedānta Through the expiratory breath of Myself—Vishnu, the Vedas were generated as many Like the oil in the sesamum seeds, Vedānta is well established (or latent) in the Vedas ”

(Hanūmān asked again) “ O Rāma, how many are the Vedas and their branches ? O Rāghava, what are the Upanishads ? Please, through Thy grace, tell me truly ”

(Śrī-Rāma said) “ Through the divisions of Rgveda and others, the Vedas are said to be four in number Their branches are many So also the Upanishads In Rgveda, there are branches, 21 in number. O son of Vāyu, there are 109 branches in Yajurveda O conqueror of enemies, there are 1,000 branches in Sāmaveda O best of Monkeys, there are 50 branches in Atharvaveda In each branch, there is one Upanishad Whoever with devotion to Me studies even one of the Rks (hymns) in these, attains the state of absorption, rare for the Munis to attain ”

(Hanūmān asked) “ O Rāma, some excellent Munis have said there is one kind of salvation only, while others [stated that salvation is attained] through the uttering of Thy name or the initiation into Tāraka (Om) at Kāśī (Benares), others through Sāṅkhya-Yoga, others through the Yoga of Devotion, other Mahāṛṣhis through the meditation upon the meaning of Mahāvākyas (the sacred sentences of the Vedas) Salvation is stated to be of four kinds through the divisions of Sālokya and others ”

(Śrī-Rāma replied) “ There is only one true emancipation. O Kapī (Monkey), even a person addicted to evil practices attains the salvation of Sālokya (My world) through the uttering of My name, but not of other worlds Should one die in Brahma-nīla (the lotus-stalk—also street) in Kāśī,¹ he attains My Tāraka (Mantra) Such a person attains salvation without any rebirth, wherever he may die in Kāśī, Maheswara initiates him by whispering My Tāraka (Mantra) into his right ear Such person, freed from all sins, attains My Swarūpa (I am) It is this that is termed Sālokya-Sārūpya salvation The twice-born lord of all good conduct and who, without diverting his

¹ Kāśī is the city of Benares, the holiest of all Hindu cities.

intelligence on any other, meditates upon Me, the All-Ātmā, attains Sāmīpya (nearness) to Me

"It is this that is termed Sīlokyā-Sārūpya-Sāmīpya salvation. The twice-born who according to the path opened by the teacher, meditates upon My immutable Reality attains Sāyujya (absorption) into Me, like the caterpillar into the wasp. This is the Sāyujya salvation which is productive of Brāhmic bliss and auspicious. Thus these kinds of salvation arise through the Upāsānā (worship) of Me

"The only means by which the final emancipation is attained is through Māndūkya-Upanishad alone, which is enough for the salvation of all aspirants. If Jñāna is not attained thereby, study the 10 Upanishads, thou shalt soon attain Jñāna, and then My Seat. O son of Añjanā, if thy Jñāna is not made firm, practise (study) well the 32 Upanishads. Thou shalt get release. If thou longest after Videhamukti (or disembodied salvation), study the 108 Upanishads. I will truly state in order the (names of the) Upanishads with their Sūnti (purificatory Mantras). Harken to them. (They are) Īśa, Kena, Katha, Prasna, Munda, Māndūkya, Tīttu, Aītaroya, Chhāndogya, Brhadāraṇyaka, Brahma, Kaivalya, Jābāla, Śvetāśvatara, Hamsa, Āruṇi, Garbha, Nārāyaṇa, (Parama)-Hamsa, (Amṛta)-Bindu, (Amṛta)-Nāda, (Atharva)-Sīra, (Atharva)-Sīkhā, Matīāyaṇī, Kaushīṭaki, (Brhat)-Jābāla, (Narasīma)-Tāpanī, Kālāgnīudra, Matīeyī, Subāla, Kshurikā, Mantrikā, Saivasāra, Nirālamba, (Suka)-Rahasya, Vajrasūchikā, Tejo-(Bindu), Nāḍa-(Bindu), Dhyāna-(Bindu), (Brahma)-Vidyā, Yoga-Taṭṭwa, Ātmabodhaka, Parivṛāt (Nārada-Parivṛājaka), (Tri)-Sīkhī, Sītā, (Yoga)-Chūdā-(Maṇi) Nivāṇa, Mandala-(Brāhmaṇa), Dakṣiṇā-(Mūrṭi), Śarabha, Skanda, (Tripādvibhūti)-Mahā-Nārāyaṇa, Adwaya-(Tāraka), (Rāma)-Rahasya, (Rāma)-Tāpanī, Vāsudeva, Mudgala, Sāṇḍilya, Paṅgala, Bhikṣu, Mahat-Sāriraka, (Yoga)-Sīkhā, Turīyātīta, Saṇnyāsa, (Paramahamsa)-Parivṛājaka, Akṣamālīkā, Avyakta, Ekākshara, (Anna)-Pūrṇā, Sūrya, Akṣi, Adhyātma, Kuṇḍikā, Sāvitr, iĀtmā, Pāsūpata, Parabrahma, Avadhūta, Tripuratāpanī, Devī, Tripurī, Kara, Bhāvanā, (Rudra)-Hṛdaya, (Yoga)-Kuṇḍalinī, Bhasma-(Jābāla) {Rudrāksha, Gaṇapati, Darsana, Tārasāra,

Mahāvākya, Pañchabrahma, (Prāna)-Agnihotra, Gopāla-Tāpanī, Kṛṣṇa, Yājñavalkya, Varāha, Śātyāyani, Hayagrīva, Daṭṭā-treya, Gāruda, Kalī-(Sanṭāraṇa), Jābāla, Soubhāgya, Saraswatī-rahasya, Bahvrīcha, and Mukṭika. These 108 (Upanishads) are able to do away with the three Bhāvanās [of doubt, vain thought, and false thought], conferring Jñāna and Vairāgya, and destroying the three Vāsanās [of book-lore, world and body]

“The twice-born—after learning the 108 Upanishads, together with the Śānti as prescribed both before and after from the mouth of a Guru well versed in the observances of Vedic knowledge and study—become Jīvanmukṣas till the destruction of their Prārabdha, in course of time as Prārabdha is destroyed, they attain My disembodied salvation. There is no doubt of it. O son of Vāyu, these 108 Upanishads, which are the essence of all the Upanishads, and are capable of destroying all sins through their mere study, have been imparted by Me to you as a disciple. This science of the 108 Upanishads taught by Me, is an occult one, and will free persons from bondage, whether they read them with or without knowledge. To gratify the desire of a supplicant, a kingdom may be given or wealth, but never shall the 108 Upanishads be imparted to an atheist, an ungrateful person, one intent on vicious actions, one having no devotion towards Me, or one who loses his path in the cave of books. On no account shall they be given to one devoid of devotion. O Māruti, it is only after a thorough examination that they should be imparted to a disciple doing service (to a Guru), to a well-disposed son, or to one devoted to Me, following good observances, belonging to a good family, and being of good intelligence. Whoever studies or hears the 108 Upanishads attains Me. There is no doubt of this. This is stated in the Rk (verse) thus—Vidyā (Saraswatī) went to a Brāhmana (and addressed him) thus: ‘Protect me. I shall be thy treasure. Do not confide me to the envious, to one not treading the right path, or to the rogue. Then I shall be potent.’ Impart this Āyurmedha-Vidyā relating to Vishnu to one after well examining him, who had studied much, is alert, intelligent, observant of the vow of celibacy, and serving [the Guru].”

Then Hanūmān asked Śrī-Rūmachandra to relate the Śānti of each Upanishad according to the divisions of Rgveda and others to which they belong To which Śrī-Rāma replied. "Aitareya, Kaushītaki, Nāda-(Bindu), Ātma-Bodha, Nirvāna, Mudgala, Akshamālikā, Tripurā, Soubhāgya and Bahvrīcha—these 10 Upanishads are of Rgveda and have the Śānti beginning with 'Vāme-Manasi, etc' Īsa, Bihadāīanyaka, Jābāla, Hamsa, (Parama)-Hamsa, Śubāla, Maṇṭrikā, Nirālamba, Trisikhī-Brāhmaṇa, Mandala-Brahmana, Adwaya-Tāraka, Paingala, Bhikshu, Turiyātīta, Adhyātma, Tārasūra, Yājñavalkya, Śātyāyanī, and Muktika—these 19 Upanishads are of Śukla Yajurveda and have the Śānti beginning with 'Pūrnāmada, etc'.

"Katha, Tīttiri, Brahma, Kaivalya, Śwetāswatara, Garbha, Nārāyana, (Amṛta)-Bindu, (Amṛta)-Nāda, Kālāgnirudra, Kshurikā, Sarvasūra, Śukarahasya, Tejo-(Bindu), Dhyāna-(Bindu), (Brahma)-Vidyā, Yoga-Tattva, Dakṣiṇā-(Mūrti), Skanda, Śārīraka, (Yoga)-Śikhā, Ekākshara, Akshī, Avadhūta, Kara, (Rudra)-Hṛdaya, (Yoga)-Kundalinī, Pañchabrahma, (Prāṇa)-Agnihoṭīa, Varāha, Kalī-(Santārana), and Saṁaswatīrahasya,—these 32 Upanishads are of Kṛṣṇa Yajurveda and have the Śānti beginning with 'Sahanāvavatu, etc'.

"Kena, Chhāndogya, Āruṇi, Maitrāyanī, Maitreyī, Vajrasūchikā, (Yoga)-Chūdā-(Mani), Vasudeva, Mahat-Sannyāsa, Avyakta, Kuṇḍikā, Sāvitrī, Rudrāksha, Jābāla, Darsana, and Jābālī,—these 16 Upanishads are of Sāmaveda and have the Śānti beginning with 'Āpyāyantu, etc'.

"Prasna, Mundaka, Māṇḍūkya, (Atharva)-Śīra, (Atharva)-Śikhā, (Brhat)-Jābāla, (Nṛsihma)-Tāpanī, (Nārada)-Parivṛājaka, Sītā, Śarabha, Mahā-Nūīyana, (Rāma)-Rahasya, (Rāma)-Tāpanī, Śāndilya, (Paramahamsa)-Parivṛājaka, (Anna)-Pūrṇā, Sūrya, Ātma, Pāsūpa, Parabrahma, Tripuratāpanī, Devī, Bhāvanā, Bhasma-(Jābāla), Gaṇapati, Mahāvākya, Gopāla-Tāpanī, Kṛṣṇa, Hayagrīva, Dattātreya, and Gāruda,—these 31 Upanishads of Atharvaṇa-Veda have the Śānti commencing with 'Bhadram-Karṇebhih, etc'.

"Persons desirous of emancipation and having developed the four means of salvation should, with presents in their hands,

approach a Guru full of faith, of good family, proficient in Vedas, scripture-loving, of good qualities, straightforward, intent upon the welfare of all beings, and an ocean of compassion; and after studying under him, according to the rules, the 108 Upanishads, he should ever be going through the process of studying, thinking and reflecting upon them. With the cessation of the three bodies through the destruction of Prārabdha, they attain the state of Plenum without any Upādhis like the ether in the pot (after the pot is broken). This is the embodied salvation, this is the final emancipation. Therefore even those in Brahmaloка through the studying of Vedānta from the mouth of Brahmā attain with Him the final emancipation. Hence to all these is stated the final emancipation through the Jñāna path, and not through Karma, Sāṅkhya-Yoga, and other Upāsānās. Thus is the Upanishad."

ADHYĀYA II

Again Māruti (Hanūmān) addressed Śrī-Rāmachandra thus: "What is Jīvanmukti? what is Videhamukti? what is the authority therein? what about its perfection? what is the object of such a perfection?"

(Śrī-Rāma replied) "The Dharma of a man's Chitta that has the characteristics of agency and enjoyment is fraught with pains and hence tends towards bondage. The control of it (the Chitta) is Jīvanmukti. Videhamukti follows when through the extinction of Prārabdha, the removal of the vehicles [of the bodies] takes place like the ether in the pot [after the pot is broken]. The authority on the points of Jīvanmukti and Videhamukti is the 108 Upanishads. Its object [of perfection] is the attaining of eternal bliss through the removal of the pains of agency, etc. This has to be achieved through human efforts. Like progeny obtained through the Putrāśmeshti sacrifice, wealth in trade, or recovery through the Jyotiṣtoma sacrifice, so Jīvanmukti is gained through Śāradā arising through Vedāntic study, and emancipation through human effort. It has to be won through the extinction of all Vānās. Regarding it, there are verses

thus 'The efforts of man are stated to be of two kinds, those that transcend scriptures and those that are according to scriptures. Those that transcend scriptures tend to harm while those that are according to scriptures tend to Reality'. To men, true Jñāna does not arise through the Vāsanās of the world, scripture and body. Vāsanā is divided into two, the pure and the impure. If thou art led by the pure Vāsanās, thou shalt thereby soon reach by degrees My Seat. But should the old impure Vāsanās land thee in danger, they should be overcome through efforts. This river of Vāsanās towards objects, which flows in the pure and impure paths, should be diverted to the pure path through human efforts. The impure ones have to be transmuted into the pure. That which is diverted from the impure turns towards the pure. So also the reverse. This child, Chitta has to be fondled through human efforts. O killer of enemies, it is only when through means of practice both Vāsanās quite abandon thee, that thou wilt be able to realise the effects of [such] practice. Even in the case of doubt, the pure Vāsanās alone should be practised.

"O son of Vāyu, there is nothing wrong in the increase of the pure Vāsanās. The extinction of Vāsanās, Vijñāna and the destruction of Manas [as these three] when practised together for a long time are regarded, O great and intelligent one, as fruitful. So long as these are not equally practised again and again, so long the [Supreme] Seat is not attained, even after the lapse of hundreds of years. Even should one of these [three] be practised for a long time, it will not yield its fruit like a Mantra imperfectly done. Through the practice of these for a long time, the firm knots of the heart are cut, without doubt, like the breaking of the threads in a lotus-stalk rent in twain. The illusory Samsāric Vāsanā that has arisen through the practice of [many] hundreds of lives never perishes except through the practice of Yoga for a long time. Therefore, O Somya [disciple], after having put away to a distance the desire of enjoyment through discriminative human effort, resort to these three alone. The wise know that a mind associated with Vāsanā tends to bondage, while a mind well freed from

Vāsanā is said to be an emancipated one. O Mahā-kapī [great Monkey] practise the state of a mind devoid of Vāsanā. Vāsanā perishes through well-conducted deliberation and truth. Through the absorption of Vāsanās, Manas attains quiescence like a lamp [without oil]. He whose mind, devoid of destruction, is [centred] on Me as of the nature of Chinmātra [consciousness alone], abandoning the Vāsanās, is no other than Myself of the nature of Sachchidānanda. Whether Sāmadhi and Karma are performed or not, one who has a supreme Chitta with a heart devoid of all desires is an emancipated person. He whose mind is freed from Vāsanās is not subject to the fruits arising from the performance or non-performance of actions, or Samādhi or Jñāna. Except through the entire giving up of Vāsanās and through Mouna [the observance of silence towards objects], the Supreme Seat is not attained. Though devoid of Vāsanās, the eye and other organs are involuntarily prompted to their (respective) external objects through habit. Just as the eye without any desire sees without any effort the objects that fall on it, so also the undaunted man of intelligence enters into the affairs [of the world] without any desire. O Māruti, the Munis know that as Vāsanā which is manifested through the consciousness of objects, which is of the nature of the object itself, and which is the cause of the origination and absorption of Chitta. This excessively fluctuating Chitta is the cause of birth, dotage and death, due to the identification of itself with objects practised firmly [for a long time]. Like the analogy of the seed and the tree, the vibration of Prāṇa arises through Vāsanā and (*vice versa*) the Vāsanā through the former—these forming the seed of Chitta. To the tree of Chitta, there are two seeds—the vibration of Prāṇa and Vāsanā. Should either of them perish, both perish soon. Through the actions of the world being done without attachment, through the abandoning of the [thought of the] reality of the universe and the conviction of the destructibility of the body, Vāsanā does not arise. Through the complete giving up of Vāsanā, Chitta becomes not-Chitta. When the mind does not think at all, being completely devoid of Vāsanā, then dawns the state of mindlessness which confers the

great peace. So long as you are without a mind of [true] discrimination and are not a knower of the Supreme Seat, so long should you follow whatever has been decided by the teacher and the authorities of the sacred books. When your sins are burnt up and you are a knower of the Reality without any anxiety, then all the good Vāsanās even should be given up.

“The destruction of Chitṭa is of two kinds, that with form and that without form. [The destruction of] that with form is of the Jīvanmukta; (the destruction of), that without form being of the Videhamukta. O son of Vāyu, hearken to [the means of] the destruction of Chitṭa. That is said to be the destruction of Chitṭa when it, associated with all the attributes of Maitrī (friendship) and others, becomes quiescent [without any resurrection]. There is no doubt of it. Then the Manas of a Jīvanmukta is free from fresh rebirth, to him, there is the destruction of Manas with form. But to the Videhamukta, there is the destruction of Manas without form. It is Manas that is the root of the tree of Samsāra with its thousands of shoots, branches, tender leaves and fruits. I think it to be Sankalpa alone. In order that the tree of Samsāra may wither soon, dry up its root through the quiescence of Sankalpa. There is only one means to control one's mind. That is to destroy the mind as soon as it rises. That is the (great) dawn. In the case of the wise, the mind is destroyed but in the case of the ignorant, it is indeed a fetter. So long as the mind is not destroyed through the firm practice of the One Reality, so long as Vāsanās are prancing about in the heart like Veṭāla (goblin) in the night-time. The Vāsanās of enjoyment of one who has destroyed the egoism of Chitṭa and controlled the organs, the enemies, decay like lotuses in mid-winter. Pressing one hand against the other, setting teeth against teeth, and forcing one limb against the other, he should first conquer his mind.

“It is not possible on the part of the one-thoughted to control the mind by sitting up again and again except through the approved means. As a vicious rutting elephant is not subject to control except through the goad, so in the matter of the control of the mind, the effective means are the attainment of

spiritual knowledge, association with the wise, the entire abdication of all Vāsanās and the control of prānas. While such are the [prescribed] means, should persons try to control the mind through violence, they are like those that search in darkness, having thrown aside the light (in their hands). Those who endeavour to control the mind through force are but trying to bind a mad elephant with the filaments of a lotus-stalk.

To the tree of the mind having the ever-growing branches of modifications, there are two seeds. One is the fluctuation of Prāṇa, and the other is the firmness of Vāsanā. The [One] All-pervading Consciousness is agitated by the fluctuation of Prāṇa. The means of Dhyāna by which [the one] Jñāna is attained through the one-pointedness of the mind is now imparted to you. After duly resolving back the things originated [in the universe] with all their changes, meditate upon that which remains—[viz], Chinmātra (the consciousness alone), which is also Chidānanda (conscious-bliss). The wise say that the interval experienced by Yogins after the inspiration and before the (next) expiration is [the internal] Kumbhaka (cessation of breath), while the interval of complete equilibrium after expiration and before the next inspiration is the external Kumbhaka. Through the force of the practice of Dhyāna, the current of the modification of Manas devoid of Self that is of Brāhmic nature is said to be Samprajñāta Samādhi, while the mind with the utter quiescence of modifications that confers upon one supreme bliss is said to be Asamprajñāta-Samādhi that is dear unto Yogins. This [state] that is devoid of light, Manas and Buddhi, and that is of the nature of Chit (consciousness merely) is styled by the Munis Atadvyāvṛtti Samādhi (a Samādhi that does not care or require the aid of another). It is Plenum above, below and in the middle, and is of the nature of Śiva (auspiciousness). This noumenal (or occult) Samādhi is itself Vidhi-Mukha (sanctioned by books or Brahmin)

"The clinging to objects without previous or subsequent deliberation through intense thought [or longing] is stated to be Vāsanā. O chief of Monkeys, whatever is meditated upon by a person with ardent impetuosity without any other Vāsanā

—that he soon becomes. A person that is entirely subject to Vāsanā becomes of the nature of that. When he regards this [universe] as Sat [the Reality], then he is subject to delusion. Because of the many strong Vāsanās, he does not abandon the nature of the universe. This person of wrong vision sees everything under infatuation like one deluded. Vāsanās are of two kinds—the pure and the impure. The impure ones are the cause of rebirth, while the pure are the destroyers of it. The impure are said by the wise to be of the nature of intense Ajñāna, associated with the great Ahankāra and generative of rebirth. Of what avail is the chewing again and again of the many Sāstric stories to one that has abandoned the seed of rebirth, having turned it into a burnt one? O Māruti, thou shouldst with effort seek the effulgence within. O tiger of Monkeys, whoever, after having abandoned the visible and the invisible, is as the One alone is not a mere knower of Brahman but is Brahman itself. One who 'having studied the four Vedas and the various books does not cognize the reality of Brahman is like the ladle ignorant of the taste of the dainty. Therefore what other advice of indifference can be imparted to a person that has not attained the indifference to the impure Vāsanā of delusion [or body]? This body is very impure while the one [Ātmā] that dwells in it is very pure. When the differences between the two are [thus] known, what then may be ordained as the purification? The bondage of Vāsanā is the [real] bondage, while the destruction of Vāsanā is salvation. After wholly abandoning the Vāsanās, give up even the desire for salvation. After first giving up the Vāsanā of objects dependent upon the Vāsanā of the mind, attract unto thyself the pure Vāsanās associated with Maītri [friendship] and others. Though engaged in the world with these pure Vāsanās, give up them too and retire within the quiescent desires and become of the form of the longing after Chit alone. Then, O Māruti 'giving up that also associated as it is with Manas and Buddhi, mayst thou now left alone become firm in Me in Samādhi. O son of Vāyu 'always worship My Reality that is destructive of pains, without sound, touch, form, decay, taste, destruction or smell, and without name and

Goṭra [clan] I am that non-dual One (Brahman) that is of the nature of the visible (Jñāna), like unto the Ākāś, supreme, always shining, without birth, non-dual, without destruction, without attachment and pervading all. I am the All, and of the nature of salvation One should ever meditate upon Me thus 'I am of the form of the visible [Jñāna], the pure, of changeless nature and have really no objects in Me. I am the ever-full Brahman, transverse and across, up and down.' Also meditate upon Me thus 'I am birthless, deathless, ageless, immortal, self-shining, all-pervading, destructionless, causeless, pure beyond the effect (of the universe) and ever content' When one's body becomes a prey to time, he gives up the state of Jīvanmukti, as the wind attains the motionless state.

"The following is said in the *Rg* [-Veda] also ' Like the eye which is spread in the Ākāś (seeing all things without any obstacle), so the wise ever see the Supreme Seat of Viṣṇu. The Brāhmanas that have ever the Divine vision praise in diverse ways and illumine the Supreme Seat of Viṣṇu."

OM-ṬAṬ-SAṬ IS THE UPANISHAD

SARVASĀRA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

KRSHṆA-YAJURVEDA

[In the text, all the questions are given first and then the answers follow. But the following arrangement is adopted to facilitate reference.]

1. What is Bandha (bondage).

Ātmā [the Self] falsely superimposing the body and others which are not-Self upon Himself, and identifying Himself with them—this identification forms the bondage of the Self.

2. What is Moksha [emancipation] ?

The freedom from that [identification] is Moksha.

3. What is Avidyā (Nescience) ?

That which causes this identification—that indeed is Avidyā.

4. What is Vidyā (knowledge) ?

That which removes this identification is Vidyā.

5. What are (meant by) the states of Jāgrat [the waking], Swapna [the dreaming], Sushupti [the dreamless sleeping] and Turiya [the fourth] ?

Jāgrat is that [state] during which Ātmā enjoys the gross objects of senses as sound, etc., through the 14 organs² as Manas, etc., having the sun and the rest as their presiding deities.

Swapna is that [state] during which Ātmā experiences, through the 14 organs associated with the Vāsanās [affinities],

¹ This Upanishad and the next form a glossary of some of the terms of Vedānta. 'Sarva Sāra' is the all essence or quintessence.

² They are the 5 organs of sense, the 5 organs of action and the 4 of Antah-karāṇa (the internal organ), viz, Manas, Buddhi, Chitta and Ahankāra. Each is animated by a Devatā or intellectual principle.

of the waking condition, sound and other objects which are of the form of the Vāsanās created for the time being, even in the absence of [the gross] sound and the others Ātmā experiences Sushupti when it does not experience sound and other objects of sense from the cessation of the functions of the 14 organs, there being no special enjoying consciousness on account of the absence of these organs

Turiya is that state during which Ātmā is a witness to the existence of the above-mentioned three states, though it is in itself without (their) existence and non-existence and during which it is one uninterrupted Chaitanya (consciousness) alone. And that Chaitanya is that which is connected with the three states, which is without the three states, and which is pure.

6 What are the Annamaya, Prāṇamaya, Manomaya, Vijñānamaya and Ānandamaya Kosas (sheaths) ?

Annamaya sheath is the aggregate of the materials formed by food. When the ten Vāyus (Vital airs), Prāṇas and others, flow through the Annamaya sheath, then it is called the Prāṇamaya sheath. When Ātmā connected with the above two sheaths performs the functions of hearing, etc., through the 14 organs of Manas and others, then it is called Manomaya sheath.

When in the (Antaḥ-karāṇa) internal organs connected with the above three sheaths, there arise the modifications of contemplation, meditation, etc., about the peculiarities of the sheaths, then it is called Vijñānamaya sheath.

When the self-cause Jñāna is in its Self-bliss like the banyan tree in its seed, though associated with these four sheaths caused by Ajñāna, then it is called Ānandamaya sheath. Ātmā which is associated with the Upādhi [vehicle] of these sheaths is figuratively called Kosa.

7. What is meant by Kartā (actor), Jīva, Pañchavarga [the five groups], Kshetrājña (the lord of the place), Sākshi [the witness], Kūṭastha and Antaryāmin (the latent guide) ?

Kartā (the actor) is the one who possesses the body and the internal organs through their respective desires proceeding from the idea of pleasure and pain. The idea of pleasure is that modification of the mind known as love. The idea of pain is

that modification of the mind known as hate. The cause of pleasure and pain are sound, touch, form, taste and odour.

Jīva is that Adhyāsi [deluded one] that thinks that this body, which is obtained through the effects of good and bad Karmas, is one not so obtained.

Pañchavarga (the five groups) are (1) Manas, viz., Manas, Buddhi, Chitta and Ahankāra (creating uncertainty, certitude, flitting thought and egoism), (2) Prāna, i.e., Prāna, Apāna, Vyāna Samāna and Udāna, (3) Saṁtwa, i.e., Saṁtwa, Rajas, and Tamas. (4) the [five] elements earth, water, fire, Vāyu and Ākāś and (5) Dharma and its opposite Adharma.

The original Avidyā which has the characteristics of the above 5 groups, which does not perish without Ātma-Jñāna, which appears eternal through the presence of Ātmā and which is the vehicle for [the manifestation of] Ātmā, is the seed of the Linga [subtle] body. It is also called Hridaya-granthi [the heart-knot]

The Chaitanya [consciousness] which is reflected and shines in it is Kshetrajñā

Sākshi [the witness] is that conscious one that is aware of the appearance and disappearance [of the three states] of the knower, the knowledge and the known, who is himself without [or not affected by] this appearance and disappearance, and who is self-radiant

Kūtaṣṭha is he who is found without exception in the Buddhi of all creatures from Brahmā down to ants, and who is shining as Ātmā and dwells as witness to the Buddhi of all creatures

Anāryāmin is the Ātmā that shines as the ordainer, being within all bodies like the thread [on which] beads [are strung] and serving to know the cause of the several differences of Kūtaṣṭha and others associated with him

S. Who is Praṭyagātmā ?

He is of the nature of truth, wisdom, eternity and bliss. He has no vehicles of body. He is abstract wisdom itself, like a mass of pure gold that is devoid of the changes of bracelet, crown, etc. He is of the nature of mere consciousness. He is that which shines as Chaitanya and Brahman. When He is

subject to the vehicle of Avidyā and is the meaning of the word "Twam" ('Thou' in "Tatṭwamasi"), then He is Pratyagātmā

9. Who is Paramātmā ?

It is He who is associated with truth, wisdom, eternity, bliss, omniscience, etc., who is subject to the vehicle of Māyā and who is the meaning of the word "Taṭ" (or 'That' in "Tatṭwamasi")

10. What is Brahman ?

Brahman is that which is free from all vehicles, which is the Absolute Consciousness devoid of particularities, which is Sat (Be-ness), which is without a second, which is bliss and which is Māyā-less. It is different from characteristics of that expressed by the word "Ṭwam" (Thou) subject to Upādhis (vehicles), or the characteristics of 'That' expressed by the word "Taṭ" subject to Upādhis. It is itself differenceless and is seen as the Seat of everything. It is the pure, the noumenal, the true and the indestructible.

And what is Satya (the true) ?

It is the Sat (Be-ness) which is the aim pointed out by the Vedas. It is that which cannot be said to be Asat (not-Be-ness). It is that which is not affected by the three periods of time. It is that which continues to exist during the three periods of time. It is that which is. It is one without a second. It has not the differences of similarity or dissimilarity; or it is that which is the source of all ideas. It is that which does not perish even though space, time, matter, cause, etc., perish.

And what is Jñāna (wisdom) ?

It is self-light. It is that which illuminates all. It is that Absolute Consciousness which is without any obscuration. It is that Consciousness which has no beginning or end, which is perpetual and which is the witness to all modifications and the experiences.

And what is Ananta (the eternal) ?

It is that which is without origin and destruction. It is that which is not subject to the six changes (i.e., birth, growth, maturity, decay, old age and death). It is free from all Upādhis. It is that Consciousness which, being all full and without

destruction, permeates the created universe composed of Avyakṭa and others, like the earth in the modifications of clay, the gold in the modifications of gold, and thread in the modifications of thread.

And what is Ānanda (bliss) ?

It is the seat of all sentient beings, like the ocean of the water, is eternal, pure, partless and non-dual, and is the sole essence of Chidānanda (consciousness-bliss).

11. Of how many kinds are substances ?

There are three kinds, Sat (Be-ness), Asat (not-Be-ness) and Mithyā (Illusion).

Sat alone is Brahman. Asat is that which is not. Mithyā is the illusory ascription to Brahman of the universe that is not.

What is fit to be known is Brahman, the Ātmā alone.

Brahma-Jūāna is the rooting out of all—bodies and such like—that are not Self, and the merging in Brahman, the Sat. The universe of Ākāś and others including Jīva is not-Ātmā.

12 What is Māyā ?

The root of this not-Ātmā is Māyā. She appears in Brahman like clouds, etc., in the sky. She has no beginning but has an end. She is subject to proof and not-proof. She neither is, nor is not, nor is she a combination of both (Sat and Asat). Her seat is indescribable. She has the varieties of differences as extolled by the wise. It is she that truly is not. Her nature is Ajūāna. She appears as Mūlaprakṛti, Guna-Sāmya (a state where the three Guṇas are found in equilibrium),¹ Avidyā (Nescience) and other forms, transforming herself into the form of the universe. Thus does a knower of Brahman cognize her.

¹ This refers to that slumbering or latent state of the universe—called also Mahā-Sushupti when the Guṇas are in equilibrium, on re-awakening into activity when the Guṇas are disturbed, Mūlaprakṛti is called by the different names of Māyā, Avidyā, Tamas, etc.

NIRĀLAMBA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

SUKLA-YAJURVEDA

HARIE-OM. I shall relate in the form of a catechism whatever should be known for the removal of all miseries that befall these ignorant creatures [men].

What is Brahman? Who is Īswara? Who is Jīva? What is Prakṛti? Who is Paramātmā? Who is Brahmā? Who is Vishnu? Who is Rudra? Who is Indra? Who is Yama? Who is Sūrya? Who is Chandra? Who are Devas? Who are Rākshasas? Who are Piśāchas? Who are Manushyas? Who are Women? Who are Paśus, etc? What is Sthāvara? Who are Brāhmans and others? What is Jāti (caste)? What is Karma? What is Akarma? What is Jñāna? What is Ajñāna? What is Sakha? What is Duhkha? What is Swarga? What is Naraka? What is Bandha? What is Moksha? Who is Upāsya? Who is Vidwān? Who is Mūḍha? What is Āsura? What is Tapas? What is Paramapada? What is Grāhya? What is Agrāhya? Who is Sannyāsi? Thus are the questions.

1. What is Brahman?

It is the Cakṣanya that appears, through the aspects of Karma and Jīva, as this vast mundane egg composed of Mahat, Abhūta and the five elements, earth, water, fire, Vāyu and Ākāśa—that is secondless—that is devoid of all Upādhis [vehicles], that is full of all Śaktis [potencies], that is without beginning and end, that is described as pure, beneficial, peaceful, and Good, and that is indescribable.

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2. Who is Īśwara? and what are His characteristics? Brahman itself, having through His Śakti called Prakṛti (matter) created the worlds and being latent in them, becomes the ruler of Buddhi and Indriyas (organs of sense and action) as well as Brahmā (the creator) and others. Hence he is named Īśwara.

3. Who is Jīva?

Īśwara Himself, subject to the false superimposition upon Himself [of the idea] "I am the gross" through the [assumption of the] names and forms of Brahmā, Viṣṇu, Rudra, Indra, and others is Jīva. Though one, he appears as many Jīvas, through the force of the different Karmas originating the bodies.

4. What is Prakṛti (matter)?

It is nothing else but the Śakti [potency] of Brahman which is of the nature of Buddhi that is able to produce the many motley worlds by virtue of the mere presence of Brahman.

5. What is Paramātmā? The supreme Ātmā or soul.

It is Brahman alone that is Paramātmā as it (the former) is far superior to bodies and others.

6. Who is Brahmā [the creator]?

7. Who is Viṣṇu [the preserver]?

8. Who is Rudra [the destroyer]?

9. Who is Indra?

10. Who is Yama [the angel of death]?

11. Who is Sūrya [the Sun]?

12. Who is Chandra [the Moon]?

13. Who are Devas [the Angels]?

14. Who are Asuras [the Demons]?

15. Who are Pisāchas [the evil spirits]?

16. Who are Manushyas [the men]?

17. Who are Women?

18. What are beasts, etc.?

19. What are the Sthūvaras [fixed ones]?

20. Who are Brāhmins and others?

That Brahman is Brahmā, Viṣṇu, Rudra and Indra, Yama, Sun and Moon, Devas, Asuras, Pisāchas, men, women, beasts, etc., the fixed ones, Brāhmins and others. Here there is no manyness in the least degree all this is verily Brahman.

21 What is Jāti (caste)

It cannot refer to the skin, the blood, the flesh or the bone
There is no caste for Ātmā; caste is only conventional.

22 What is Karma?

Karma is that action alone which is performed by the organs and ascribed to Ātmā as "I do" (viz., agency being attributed to Ātmā).

23. What is Akarma [or non-Karma]?

Akarma is the performance, without any desire for the fruits, of the daily and occasional rites, sacrifices, vows, austerities, gifts and other actions that are associated with the egoism of the actor and the enjoyer, and that are productive of bondage, rebirth, etc

24 What is Jñāna?

It is the realisation by direct cognition of the fact that in this changing universe there is nothing but Chaitanya [the one life] that is Consciousness, that is of the form of the seer and the seen, pervading all things, that is the same in all, and that is not subject to changes like pot, cloth, etc This realisation is brought about by means of the subjugation of the body and the senses, the serving of a good Guru (teacher), the hearing of the exposition of Vedāntic doctrines and constant meditation thereon

25 What is Ajñāna?

It is the illusory attribution, like the snake in the rope, of many Ātmās (souls) through the diverse Upādhis [or vehicles] of the angels, beasts, men, the fixed ones, females, males, castes and orders of life, bondage and emancipation, etc, to Brahman that is secondless, all-permeating and of the nature of all.

26 What is Sukha (happiness)?

It is a state of being of the nature of bliss, having cognized through experience the Reality of Sachchidānanda [or that which is being, consciousness and bliss]

27 What is Duhkha (trains)?

It is the mere Sankalpa [or the thinking] of the objects of mundane existence [or of not-Self according to the Bombay Edition]

28. What is Swarga (heaven)?

It is the association with Sat [either good men or Brahman which is Sat, the true].

29. What is Naraka (hell) ?

It is the association with that which brings about this mundane existence which is Asat [the false].

30. What is Bandha [bondage] ?

Such Sankalpas [thoughts] as "I was born," etc., arising from the affinities of beginningless Ajñāna form bondage.

The thought obscuration [or mental ignorance] of the mundane existence of "mine" in such as father, mother, brother, wife, child, house, gardens, lands, etc., forms bondage.

The thoughts of I-ness as actor, etc., are bondage

The thought of the development in oneself of the eight Siddhis (higher psychical powers) as Aṇimā and others¹ is bondage

The thought of propitiating the angels, men, etc., is bondage.

The thought of going through the eight means of Yoga² practice, Yama, etc., is bondage

The thought of performing the duties of one's own caste and order of life is bondage.

The thought that command, fear and doubt are the attributes of [or pertain to] Ātmā is bondage

The thought of knowing the rules of performing sacrifices, vows, austerity and gift is bondage. Even the mere thought of desire for Moksha (emancipation) is bondage. By the very act of thought, bondage is caused.

31. What is Moksha [emancipation] ?

Moksha is the (state of) the annihilation, through the discrimination of the eternal from the non-eternal, of all thoughts of bondage, like those of "mine" in objects of pleasure and pain, lands, etc., in this transitory mundane existence

32 Who is Upāsya [or fit to be worshipped] ?

That Guru (or spiritual instructor) who enables (the disciple) to attain to Brahman, the Consciousness that is in all bodies

¹ There are 18 Siddhis, 8 higher and 10 lower

² They are Yama, Niyama, etc

33 Who is Śishya (the disciple) ?

The disciple is that Brahman alone that remains after the consciousness of the universe has been lost (in him) through Brāhmīc wisdom

34 Who is Vīdhwān (the learned) ?

It is he who has cognized the true form (or reality) of his own consciousness that is latent in all

35 Who is Mūḍha [the ignorant] ?

He who has the egoistic conception of the body, caste, orders of life, actor, enjoyer and others

36 What is Āsura [the demoniacal] ?

It is the Tapas [austerity] practised by one inflicting trouble on the Ātma within through Japa [or inaudible muttering of Mantras], abstinence from food, Agnihotra [the performance of the worship of fire], etc., attended with cruel desire, hatred, pain, hypocrisy and the rest for the purpose of acquiring the powers of Viṣṇu, Brāhmā, Rudra, Indra and others

37 What is Tapas?

Tapas is the act of burning—through the fire of direct cognition of the knowledge that Brahman is the truth and the universe, a myth—the seed of the deep-rooted desire to attain the powers of Brāhmā, etc

38 What is Paramapada [the supreme abode] ?

It is the seat of the eternal and emancipated Brahman which is far superior to Prāṇas (the vital airs), the organs of sense and actions, the internal organs (of thought), the Guṇas and others, which is of the nature of Sachchīdānanda and which is the witness to all

39 What is Grāhya [or fit to be taken in] ?

Only that Reality of Absolute Consciousness which is not conditioned by space, time or substance

40 What is Agrāhya ?

The thought that this universe is truth—this universe which is different from one's Self and which being subject to Māyā (or illusion) forms the object of (cognition of) Buddhi and the organs

41. Who is the Sannyāsi [ascetic] ?

A Sannyāsi is an ascetic who having given up all the duties of caste and orders of life, good and bad actions, etc., being freed from [the conceptions of] "I" and "mine" and having taken his refuge in Brahman alone, roams at large practising Nirvikalpa Samādhi and being firmly convinced of "I am Brahman" through the realisation of the meaning of such sacred (Vedic) sentences as "Thou art That" "All this is verily Brahman" and "Here there is no manyness in the least". He only is an emancipated person. He only is fit to be adored. He only is a Yogin. He only is a Paramahansa. He only is an Avadhūta. He only is a Brahman. Whoever studies the *Nirālamba-Upanishad* becomes, through the grace of Guru, pure like fire. He becomes pure like Vāyu (air). He does not return. He is not born again nay he is not born again.

Such is the Upanishad.

MAITREYA-UPANISHAD

OF

SĀMAVEDA

A KING named Brhadraṭha, thinking this body to be impermanent and having acquired indifference (to objects), retired to the forest, leaving his eldest son to rule over (his) kingdom. With hands uplifted and eyes fixed on the sun, he performed a severe Tapas (or religious austerity). At the end of a thousand days, the Lord Śākāyanya Munī, a knower of Ātmā, who was like fire without smoke, and who was as a scorching fire with his Tejas (spiritual lustre) approached (him) and addressed the King thus: "Rise, rise and choose a boon." The King prostrated before him and said: "O Lord, I am not an Ātmavit (or knower of Ātmā). Thou art a *Taṭṭwaviṭ*, we hear. Please enlighten me about Sattva (the state of Sat or Brahman)." (To which) the Munī replied thus: "O thou that art born of the race of Ikshwāku. To begin with, your question is difficult (of explanation). do not question me. Ask for any other thing you desire." Thereupon the King touched the feet of Śākāyanya and recited the (following) verse:

"What is the use of these to me or any other? Oceans dry up. Mountains sink down. The positions of Dhruva (the Polar Star) and of trees change. Earth is drowned. The Suras (angels) run away, leaving their (respective) places. (While such is the case), I am He in reality. Therefore of what avail to me is the gratification of desires, since one who clings to the gratification of desires is found to return again and again to this Samsāra (mundane existence)? Thou art able to extricate me (out of this Samsāra). I am drowned like a frog in a dry well. Thou art my refuge.

“O Lord! this body was the result of sexual intercourse. It is without wisdom, it is hell (itself). It came out through the urinary orifice. It is linked together by bones. It is coated over with flesh. It is bound by skin. It is replete with faeces, urine, Vāyu (air), bile, phlegm, marrow, fat, serum and many other impurities. O Lord! to me in such a foul body (as this), thou art my refuge.”

Thereupon Lord Śākāyanya was pleased and addressed the King thus: “O Mahārāja, Brhadraṭha, the flag of the Ikshvāku race, thou art an Ātmañānī. Thou art one that has done his duty. Thou art famous by the name of Maruṭ.” At which the King asked: “O Lord! in what way, can you describe Ātmā?” To which he replied thus: “Sound, touch, and others which seem to be Artha (wealth) are in fact Anartha (evil). The Bhūtātma (the lower Self) clinging to these, never remembers the Supreme Seat. Through Tapas, Saṭtwa (quality) is acquired, through Saṭtwa, a (pure) mind is acquired, and through mind, (Parama-) Ātmā, (the higher Self) is reached. Through attaining Ātmā, one gets liberation. Just as fire without fuel is absorbed into its own womb, so Chitta (thought) through the destruction of its modifications is absorbed into its own womb (source). To a mind that has attained quiescence and truth, and which is not affected by sense-objects, the events that occur to it through the bondage of Karma are merely unreal. It is Chitta alone that is Samsāra. It should be cleansed with effort. Whatever his Chitta (thinks), of that nature he becomes. This is an archaic mystery. With the purifying of Chitta, one makes both good and bad Karmas to perish. One whose mind is thus cleansed attains the indestructible Bliss (through his own Self). Just as Chitta becomes united with an object that comes across it; so why should not one (be released) from bondage, when one is united with Brahman. One should meditate in the middle of the lotus of the heart, Parameswara (the highest Lord) who is the witness to the play of Buddha, who is the object of supreme love, who is beyond the reach of mind and speech, who has no beginning or end, who is Saṭ alone being of the nature of light only, who is beyond meditation, who can

neither be given up nor grasped (by the mind), who is without equal or superior, who is the permanent, who is of unshaken depth, who is without light or darkness, who is all-pervading, changeless and vehicleless, and who is wisdom of the nature of Moksha (salvation) I am He—that Paramātmā who is the eternal, the pure, the liberated, of the nature of wisdom, the true, the subtle, the all-pervading, the secondless, the ocean of bliss, and one that is superior to Pratyagātmā (the lower Self) There is no doubt about it How will calamity (or bondage) approach me who am depending upon my own bliss in my heart, who have put to shame the ghost of desires, who look upon this universe as (but) a jugglery and who am not associated with anything. The ignorant with their observance of the castes and orders of life obtain their fruits according to their Karmas Men who have given up all duties of castes, etc., rest content in the bliss of their own Self The distinctions of caste and orders of life have divisions among them, have beginning and end, and are very painful Therefore having given up all identification with sons and as well as body, one should dwell in that endless and most supreme Bliss”

ADHYĀYA II

Then Lord Maitreya went to Kailās and having reached it asked Him thus “O Lord! please initiate me into the mysteries of the highest Taṭṭwa” To which Mahādeva replied “The body is said to be a temple The Jīva in it is Śiva alone Having given up all the cast-off offerings of Ajñāna, one should worship Him with So’ham (I am He) The cognition of everything as non-different from oneself is Jñāna (wisdom) Abstracting the mind from sensual objects is Dhyāna (meditation) Purifying the mind of its impurities is Snāna (bathing) The subjugation of the Indriyas (sensual organs) is Śauca (purification) One should drink the nectar of Brahman and beg food for maintaining the body Having one (thought) alone, he should live in a solitary place without a second The wise man should observe thus then he obtains Absolution

“This body is subject to birth and death It is of the nature of the secretion of the father and mother. It is impure,

being the seat of happiness and misery. (Therefore) bathing is prescribed for touching it. It is bound by the Dhātus (skin, blood, etc.), is liable to severe diseases, is a house of sins, is impermanent and is of changing appearance and size (Therefore) bathing is prescribed for touching it. Foul matter is naturally oozing out always from the nine holes. It (body) contains bad odour and foul excrement (Therefore) bathing is prescribed for touching it. It is connected (or tainted) with the child-birth impurity of the mother and is born with it. It is also tainted with death impurity (Therefore) bathing is prescribed for touching it. (The conception of) "I and mine" is the odour arising from the besmeared dung and urine. The release from it is spoken of as the perfect purification. The (external) purification by means of water and earth is on account of the worldly. The destruction of the threefold affinities (of Sāstīas, world and body) generates the purity for cleansing Chitta. That is called the (real) purification which is done by means of the earth and water of Jñāna (wisdom) and Varāgya (indifference to objects)

"The conception of Advaita (non-dualism) should be taken in as the Bhiksha (alms-food), (but) the conception of Dvaita (dualism) should not be taken in. To a Sannyāsī (ascetic), Bhiksha is ordained as dictated by the Sāstra and the Guru. After becoming a Sannyāsī, a learned man should himself abandon his native place and live at a distance, like a thief released from prison. When a person gives up Ahankāra (I-ness) the son, wealth the brother, delusion the house, and desire the wife, there is no doubt that he is an emancipated person. Delusion, the mother is dead. Wisdom, the son is born. In this manner while two kinds of pollution have occurred, how shall we (the ascetics) observe the Sandhyās (conjunction periods)? The Chit (consciousness) of the sun is ever shining in the resplendent Ākāś of the heart. He neither sets nor rises, while so, how shall we perform the Sandhyās? Ekānta (solitude) is that state of one without second as determined by the words of a Guru. Monasteries or forests are not solitudes. Emancipation is only for those who do not doubt. To those who doubt, there

is no salvation even after many births. Therefore one should attain faith. (Mere) abandoning of the Karmas or of the Mantras uttered at the initiation of a Sannyāsī (ascetic) will not constitute Sannyāsa. The union of Jīva (-Ātmā) (the lower Self) and Parama (-Ātmā) (the higher Self) at the two Sandhis (morning and evening) is termed Sannyāsa. Whoever has a nausea for all Īshana (desires) and the rest as for vomited food, and is devoid of all affection for the body, is qualified for Sannyāsa. At the moment when indifference towards all objects arises in the mind, a learned person may take up Sannyāsa. Otherwise, he is a fallen person. Whoever becomes a Sannyāsī on account of wealth, food, clothes and fame, becomes fallen in both (as a Sannyāsī and as householder), (then) he is not worthy of salvation.

“The thought of (contemplation upon) Tattvas is the transcendental one, that of the Sūtras, the middling, and that of Mantras, the lowest. The delusion of pilgrimages is the lowest of the lowest. Like one, who, having seen in water the reflection of fruits in the branches of trees, tastes and enjoys them, the ignorant without self-cognition are in vain overjoyed with (as if they reached) Brahman. That ascetic is an emancipated person who does not abandon the internal alms-taking (*viz.*, the meditation upon the non-dual), generating Vairāgya as well as faith, the wife, and wisdom, the son. Those men (termed) great through wealth, age, and knowledge, are only servants to those that are great through their wisdom as also to their disciples. Those whose minds are deluded by Māyā, however learned they may be, do not attain Me, the all-full Ātmā, and roam about like crows, simply for the purpose of filling up their belly, well burnt up (by hunger, etc.) For one that longs after salvation, the worship of images made of stone, metals, gem, or earth, is productive of rebirth and enjoyment. Therefore the ascetic should perform his own heart-worship alone, and relinquish external worship in order that he may not be born again. Then like a vessel full to its brim in an ocean, he is full within and full without. Like a vessel void in the ether, he is void within and void without. Do not become (or

differentiate between) the Ātmā that knows or the Ātminī that is known Do become of the form of that which remains, after having given up all thoughts. Relinquishing with their Vāsanās the seer, the seen and the visual, worship Ātmā alone, the resplendent supreme presence. That is the real supreme State wherein all Sankalpas (thoughts) are at rest, which resembles the state of a stone, and which is neither waking nor sleeping."

ΑΡΗΥΛΑ III

"I am "I" (the Self). I am also another (the not-Self). I am Brahman I am the Source (of all things). I am also the Guru of all worlds I am of all the worlds I am He I am Myself alone. I am Siddha I am the Pure I am the Supreme I am I am always He. I am the Eternal I am stainless. I am Vijnāna. I am the Excellent I am Soma I am the All. I am without honour or dishonour I am without Gunas (qualities) I am Śiva (the auspicious). I am neither dual or non-dual I am without the dualities (of heat or cold, etc.) I am He. I am neither existence nor non-existence I am without language I am the Shining I am the Glory of void and non-void I am the good and the bad I am Happiness. I am without grief I am Chaitanya. I am equal (in all). I am the like and the non-like I am the eternal, the pure, and the ever felicitous I am without all and without not all I am Sāttvika I am always existing. I am without the number one I am without the number two I am without the difference of Sat and Asat I am without Sankalpa I am without the difference of manyness I am the form of immeasurable Bliss I am one that exists not. I am the one that is not another I am without body, etc. I am with asylum. I am without asylum I am without support I am without bondage or emancipation I am the pure Brahman I am He I am without Chitta, etc I am the supreme and the Supreme of the supreme I am ever of the form of deliberation and yet am without deliberation. I am He I am of the nature of the Akāra and Ukāra as also of Makāra I am the earliest The contemplator and contemplation I am without I am One that cannot be contemplated upon. I

am He I have full form in all. I have the characteristics of Sachchidānanda I am of the form of places of pilgrimages. I am the higher Self and Siva. I am neither the thing defined nor non-defined I am the non-absorbed Essence. I am not the measurer, the measure or the measured I am Siva. I am not the universe I am the Seer of all I am without the eyes, etc. I am the full grown I am the Wise I am the Quiescent. I am the Destroyer I am without any sensual organs I am the doer of all actions I am One that is content with all Vedāntas (either books or Ātmic Wisdom). I am the easily attainable. I have the name of one that is pleased as well as one that is not. I am the fruits of all silence. I am always of the form of Chinmūtra (Absolute Consciousness). I am always Sat (Be-ness) and Chit (Consciousness). I am one that has not anything in the least. I am not one that has not anything in the least. I am without the heart-Granthi (knot). I am the Being in the middle of the lotus I am without the six changes I am without the six sheaths and without the six enemies I am within the within I am without place and time. I am of the form of happiness having the quarters as My garment I am the emancipated One, without bondage I am without the 'no'. I am of the form of the partless. I am the partless I have Chitta, though released from the universe I am without the universe I am of the form of all light I am the Light (Jyotiṣ) in Chinmūtra (Absolute Consciousness) I am free from the three periods (of time past, present, and future) I am without desires I am without body I am One that has no body I am Guṇaless. I am alone I am without emancipation I am the emancipated One I am ever without emancipation I am without truth or untruth I am always One that is not different from Sat (Be-ness) I have no place to travel I have no going, etc. I am always of the same form I am the Quiescent I am Puruṣottama (the Lord of Souls) There is no doubt that he who has realised his self thus, is Myself Whoever hears (this) once becomes himself Brahman, yet, he becomes himself Brahman. Thus is the Upanishad

KAIVALYA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KṚSHNA-YAJURVEDA

HARIH-OM. Then² Āsvalāyana went to Lord Parameshtī (Brahmā) and addressed Him thus “Please initiate me into Brahma-vidyā (Divine Wisdom), which is the most excellent, which is ever enjoyed by the wise, which is mystic, and by which the learned, after having soon freed themselves from all sins, reach Purusha, the Supreme of the supreme”

To him the Grandfather (thus) replied “Know (It) through Śraddhā (faith), Bhakti (devotion), Dhyāna (meditation), and Yoga. Persons attain salvation not through Karma, progeny or wealth but through Sannyāsa (renunciation) alone. Ascetics of pure mind through (the realisation of) the meaning well-ascertained by Vedānta-Vijñāna and through Sannyāsa-Yoga enter into That which is above Swarga (heaven) and is in the cave (of the heart). They all attain Paramātmā³ in the Brahma-world and are (finally) emancipated.

“Being seated in a pleasant posture in an unfrequented place with a pure mind, and with his neck, head, and body erect, having given up the duties of the (four) orders of life, having subjugated all the organs, having saluted his Guru with devotion, having looked upon the heart (-lotus) as being free from Rajo-guṇa and as pure, and having contemplated in its (heart's) centre Parameswara who is always with His consort Umā, who is pure and free from sorrow, who is unthinkable and invisible, who is of endless forms, who is of the nature of happiness,

¹ Lit., isolation- or emancipation-Upanishad

² After attaining Sādhana-Chaṭushtaya or the four means of salvation

³ Hiraṇyagarbha or the higher Self

who is very quiescent, who is of the form of emancipation, who is the source of Māyā, who has no beginning, middle or end, who is One, who is All-Pervading, who is Chidānanda (Consciousness-Bliss), who is formless, who is wonderful, who is the Lord (of all), who has three eyes, who has a blue neck, (Nīlakantha), and who is serenity (itself)—the Mani attains Paramātmā, the womb of all elements, the All-Witness, and above Tamas. He only is Brahmā. He only is Siva. He only is Indra. He only is the indescribable. He only is the Supreme. He only is the Self-Shining. He only is Viśhnū. He only is Prāṇa. He only is Tīma. He only is Agni (fire). He only is the moon. He only is all things that exist or will hereafter exist. He only is eternal. Having known Him one crosses death. There is no other path to salvation. He only attains Parabrahman who sees in himself all elements and himself in all elements. There is no other means. Having constituted his body an Arani (the lower attritional piece of wood) and Pranava (Om), the upper Arani, a wise man burns Añāna by the churning of meditation.

‘It is only He (Paramātmā) who, deluded by Māyā, assumes a body with the internal organs and does everything. It is only He who in the waking state is gratified with women, food, drink and other diverse enjoyments. In the dreaming state the Jīva enjoys pleasures and pains in the several worlds which are created by His Māyā. In the dreamless sleeping state when all are absorbed, He, replete with Tamas, attains the state of Lōpānasa. Then through the force of the Karmas of previous births, that Jīva again wakes up and goes to sleep. All the diversified objects (of the universe) emanate from the Jīva, who sports in the three bodies (gross, subtle and causal). The three bodies are finally absorbed in Him who is the source of all, who is Bliss, and who is Absolute Wisdom. From Him arise Prāṇa, Manas, all the organs of sense and action, Ākāśa, Vāyu, Agni, water and the earth supporting all the multitudes, which is of all forms, which is the Supreme Abode of the universe, which is the most subtle of the subtle and which is eternal, is only yourself. You are

only That. One who knows himself to be that Parabrahman that shines as the universe in the waking, dreaming, dreamless and other states, will be relieved from all bondage. I am that Sadāsiva, (or the eternal happiness) who is other than the enjoyer, the enjoyed, and the enjoyment in the three seats (or bodies), and who is witness and Chinmātra. All emanate from Me alone. All exist in Me alone. All merge into Me alone. I am that non-dual Brahman. I am the atom of atoms, so am I the biggest (of all). I am this diversified universe. I am the oldest of all. I am Purusha. I am Īśa (the Lord). I am of the form of Jyotiṣ (light) and of the form of happiness. I have neither hands nor feet. I have power unthinkable. I see without eyes. I hear without ears. I am omniscient. I have one kind of form only. None is able to know Me fully. I am always of the form of Chit. I am the One that should be known through all the Vedas. I am the Guru who revealed the Vedānta. I am only He who knows the true meaning of Vedānta. I have no sins or virtues. I have no destruction. I have no birth, body, organs of sense or action, or Buddhi. To Me there is no earth, water or fire. There is no Vāyu, there is no Ākāś. He who thinks Paramātmā as being in the cave (of the heart), as having no form, as being secondless, as being the witness of all and as being neither Saṭ nor Asaṭ, attains the pure form of Paramātmā.

“Whoever recites this Upanishad belonging to Yajurveda, he becomes as pure as Agni (fire). He becomes purified from the sins of theft of gold. He becomes purified from the sins of drinking alcohol. He becomes purified from the sins of murder of a Brāhman. He becomes purified from the sins of commission (of those that ought not to be done) and the sins of omission (of those that ought to be done). Therefore he becomes a follower of Brahman. Were one who has stepped beyond the duties of the four orders of life to recite (this Upanishad) always or even once, he acquires the wisdom that destroys the ocean of Samsāra. Therefore having known Him, he attains the Kaivalya State (or state of isolation or emancipation)—yea, he attains the Kaivalya State.”

OM-TAT-SAT

AMṚTABINDU¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

OM Manas (mind) is said to be of two kinds, the pure and the impure. That which is associated with the thought of desire is the impure, while that which is without desire is the pure. To men, their mind alone is the cause of bondage or emancipation. That mind which is attracted by objects of sense tends to bondage, while that which is not so attracted tends to emancipation. Now inasmuch as to a mind without a desire for sensual objects there is stated to be salvation, therefore an aspirant after emancipation should render his mind ever free from all longing after material objects. When a mind freed from the desires for objects and controlled in the heart attains the reality of Ātmā, then is it in the Supreme Seat. Till that which arises in the heart perishes, till then it (Manas) should be controlled. This only is (true) wisdom. This only is true Dhyāna (meditation). Other ways are but long or tedious. It (Brahman) is not at all one that can be contemplated upon. It is not one that cannot be contemplated upon. It is not capable of contemplation, (and yet) it should be contemplated upon. Then one attains Brahman that is devoid of partiality. Yoga should be associated with Swara (sound, accent). (Brahman) should be meditated upon without Swara. By meditating without Swara upon Brahman, that which is cannot become non-existent. Such a Brahman is partless, devoid of fancy and quiescent (or free from the action of mind). Whoever cognizes "I" to be that Brahman

¹ I.e., the immortal germ

attains certainly Brahman. A wise man having known that Brahman, that is without fancy, without end, without cause, or example, beyond inference and without beginning, is emancipated. There is (for him then) no destruction, no creation, no person in bondage, no devotee, no aspirant for salvation no emancipated person. This is the truth. Ātmā that should be contemplated upon is One in (the three states), the waking, the dreaming, and the dreamless sleep. There is no rebirth to him who goes beyond the three states. The one Bhūtātmā of all beings is in all beings. Like the moon (reflected) in water, he appears as one and as many. While a pot is being carried (from one place to another), the Ākāś (ether) that is within it is not carried (along with it). As the pot alone is carried, Jīva (within the body) may be likened to the Ākāś. Like the pot the body has various kinds of forms. The body which perishes again and again is not conscious of its own destruction. But he (the Jīva) knows (it) always. He who is enveloped by the Māyā of sound, is never able to come to (or see) the sun (of Parabrahman) from the darkness (of ignorance). Should such darkness be cleared, then he alone sees the non-dual state. Parabrahman is Śabdākshara.¹ What remains after the cessation of Śabda-Vedas, that is Akshara (indestructible), should be meditated upon by a learned man who wishes to secure quiescence to his Ātmā.

Two Vidyās (sciences) are fit to be known, viz., Śabdabrahman and Parabrahman. One who has completely mastered Śabdabrahman attains Parabrahman. Having studied well the books, the learned man should persevere studiously in Jñāna (the acquisition of knowledge) and Vijñāna (Self-realisation according to such knowledge). Then he should discard the whole of the books, as a person in quest of grain gives up the straw. Though there are cows of different colours, yet their milk is of the same colour. Like milk is seen Jñāna, and like cows are seen the different kinds of forms (in the universe). As ghee is latent in milk, so is Vijñāna (Self-realisation) latent in every being. Through churning always the Manas with the

¹ It is the indestructible known through the sound or the Vedas.

churning-stick of Manas and the string of Jñāna, Parabrahman that is partless, calm and quiescent should be brought out like fire from the wood I am that Brahman That Vāsudeva who is support of all beings, who lives in all and who protects all creatures is Myself That Vāsudeva is Myself

Such is the Upanishad

OM-TAT-SAT.

Prajñāna is the eye and Prājñā is the seat. It is Prajñāna alone that is Brahman. A person who meditates (thus), leaves this world through Prajñāna, the Ātmā and ascending attains all his desires in the Supreme Swarga deathless. Oh! I pray Thee, place me in that nectar-everflowing unfailing world where Jyotis (the light) always shines and where one is revered (There is no doubt) he attains nectar also. Om-namah.

I am without Māyā. I am without compare. I am solely the thing that is of the nature of wisdom. I am without Ahankāra (I-am-ness). I am without the difference of the universe, Jīva and Īśvara. I am the Supreme that is not different from Pratyagātmā (individual Ātmā). I am with ordinances and prohibitions destroyed without remainder. I am with Āśramas (observances of life) well given up. I am of the nature of the vast and all-full wisdom. I am one that is witness and without desire. I reside in My glory alone. I am without motion. I am without old age—without destruction—without the differences of My party or another. I have wisdom as chief essence. I am the mere ocean of bliss called salvation. I am the subtle. I am without change. I am Ātmā merely, without the illusion of qualities. I am the Seat devoid of the three Guṇas. I am the cause of the many worlds in (My) stomach. I am the Kūṭastha-Chaitanya (supreme Cosmic-mind). I am of the form of the Jyotis (light) free from motion. I am not one that can be known by inference. I alone am full. I am of the form of the stainless salvation. I am without limbs or birth. I am the essence which is Saṭ itself. I am of the nature of the true wisdom without limit. I am the state of excellent happiness. I am One that cannot be differentiated. I am the all-pervading and without stain. I am the limitless and endless Saṭtva alone. I am fit to be known through Vedānta. I am the one fit to be worshipped. I am the heart of all the worlds. I am replete with Supreme Bliss. I am of the nature of happiness, which is Supreme Bliss. I am pure, secondless, and eternal. I am devoid of beginning. I am free from the three bodies (gross, subtle, and causal). I am of the nature of wisdom. I am the emancipated One. I have a wondrous form. I am free from impurity.

I am the One who is not born. I am the eternal Ātmā of eternal Vignāna. I am the eternal Supreme Truth. I am of the nature of, *Atma-Brahma* alone.

Though I am the secondless Ātmā by means of devotionative devotion, I am and remain, yet I found the relation between bondage and salvation. Though to Me the universe is gone, yet it shines as the shadow. Like the truth in the (illusory) conception of a candle etc., in the rope, so the truth of Brahman alone, and is the substratum on which this universe is playing. Therefore the universe is not. Just as sugar is found permeating all the sugar-juice (from which the sugar is extracted), so I am felt in the three worlds in the form of the non-dual Brahman. Like the bubbles, waves, etc., in the ocean, so all being, from Brahman down to worm, are fashioned in Me, just as the ocean does not long after the motion of the waves, so to Me, there is no longing after sensual happiness, being Myself of the form of (spiritual) Bliss. Just as in a wealthy person the desire for poverty does not arise, so in Me who am immersed in Brahmic Bliss, the desire for sensual happiness cannot arise. An intelligent person who sees both nectar and poison rejects poison, so having cognized Ātmā, I reject those that are not-Ātmā. The sun that illuminates the pot (both within and without) is not destroyed with the destruction of the pot, so the Sākshi (witness) that illuminates the body is not destroyed with the destruction of the body. To Me there is no bondage, there is no salvation, there are no books, there is no Guru, for these shine through Māyā and I have crossed them and am secondless. Let Prāṇas (vital airs) according to their laws be fluctuating. Let Manas (mind) be blown about by desire. How can pains affect Me who am by nature full of Bliss? I have truly known Ātmā. My Ajñāna has fled away. The egoism of actorship has left Me. There is nothing I should yet do. Brāhman's duties, family, Goṭra (clan), name, beauty, and class—all these belong to the gross body and not to Me who am without any mark (of body). Inertness, love, and joy—these attributes appertain to the causal body and not to Me, who am eternal and of changeless nature. Just as an owl sees

darkness only in the sun, so a fool sees only darkness in the self-shining Supreme Bliss. Should the clouds screen the eyesight, a fool thinks there is no sun; so an embodied person full of Ajñāna thinks there is no Brahman. Just as nectar which is other than poison does not commingle with it, so I, who am different from inert matter, do not mix with its stains. As the light of a lamp, however small, dispels immense darkness, so wisdom, however slight, makes Ajñāna, however immense, to perish. Just as (the delusion) of the serpent does not exist in the rope in all the three periods of time (past, present, and future), so the universe from Ahankāra (down) to body does not exist in Me who am the non-dual One. Being of the nature of Consciousness alone, there is not inertness in Me. Being of the nature of Truth, there is not non-truth to Me. Being of the nature of Bliss, there is not sorrow in Me. It is through Ajñāna that the universe shines as truth.

Whoever recites this Ātmabodha-Upanishad for a Mahūrta (48 minutes) is not born again—yea, is not born again.

SKANDA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

OM. O Mahādeva (Lord of Devas), I am indestructible through a small portion of Thy grace I am replete with Vijnāna. I am Śiva (Bliss). What is higher than It? Truth does not shine as such on account of the display of the antahkarana (internal organs) Through the destruction of the antahkarana, Hari abides as Samvit (Consciousness) alone As I also am of the form of Samvit, I am without birth What is higher than It? All inert things being other (than Ātmā) perish like dream That Achyuta (the indestructible or Vishnu), who is the seer of the conscious and the inert, is of the form of Jñāna. He only is Mahādeva. He only is Mahā-Hari (Mahāvishnu) He only is the Jyotiḥ of all Jyotiḥ (or Light of all lights). He only is Paramesvara He only is Parabrahman. That Brahman I am. There is no doubt (about it) Jīva is Śiva. Śiva is Jīva. That Jīva is Śiva alone. Bound by husk, it is paddy; freed from husk, it is rice In like manner Jīva is bound (by karma). If karma perishes, he (Jīva) is Sadāśiva So long as he is bound by the bonds of karma, he is Jīva If freed from its bonds, then he is Sadāśiva Prostrations on account of Śiva who is of the form of Vishnu, and on account of Vishnu who is of the form of Śiva The heart of Vishnu is Śiva. The heart of Śiva is Vishnu As I see no difference² (between these two), therefore to me are prosperity and life. There is no difference—between Śiva and

¹ Skanda is the son of Śiva and is represented on earth by Sanatkumāra.

² This will give a rude shock to the followers of Śiva and Vishnu in India, who wage useless war as to the supremacy of Vishnu and Śiva.

Kesava (Vishṇu). The body is said to be the divine temple. The Śiva (in the body) is the God Sadāsiva¹ (in the temple)

Having given up the cast-off offerings of ajñāna, one should worship Him with the thought "I am He". To see (oneself) as not different (from Him) is (jñāna) wisdom To make the mind free from sensual objects is dhyāna (meditation) The giving up of the stains of the mind is snāna (bathing). The subjugation of the senses is soucha (cleansing) The nectar of Brahman should be drunk For the upkeep of the body, one should go about for alms and eat He should dwell alone in a solitary place without a second He should be with the sole thought of the non-dual One The wise person who conducts himself thus, attains salvation. Prostrations on account of Śrīmat Param-Jyotiṣ (Supreme Light) abode! May prosperity and long life attend (me) O Naraśimha!² O Lord of Devas! through Thy grace, persons cognize the true nature of Brahman that is unthinkable, undifferentiated, endless, and immutable, through the forms of the Gods, Brahmā, Nārāyaṇa, and Śankara

Like the eye (which sees without any obstacle the things) spread in the ākāś, so the wise always see the supreme abode of Viṣṇu. Brāhmins with divine eyes who are always spiritually awake, praise in diverse ways and illuminate the supreme abode of Viṣṇu. Thus is the teaching of the Vedas for salvation.

Thus is the Upanishad.

¹ Sadāsiva, lit., eternal bliss. This is one of the names applied to Śiva as also to Brahmā.

² Naraśimha, lit., Man lion. This refers to one of the incarnations of Viṣṇu when he killed the evil power Hiranyakasipu.

PAINGALA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

S'UKLA-YAJURVEDA

APHYĀYA I

OM Paingala, having served under Yājñavalkya for twelve years, asked him to initiate him into the supreme mysteries of Kaivalya. To which Yājñavalkya replied thus "O gentle one, at first, this (universe) was Sat (Be-ness) only. It (Sat) is spoken of as Brahman which is ever free (from the trammels of matter), which is changeless, which is Truth, Wisdom, and Bliss, and which is full, permanent, and one only without a second. In It, was like a mirage in the desert, silver in mother-of-pearl, a person in the pillar, or colour, etc., in the crystals, mūlaprakṛti, having in equal proportions the gunas, red,² white, and black, and being beyond the power of speech. That which is reflected in it is Sākshi-Chaitanya (lit, the witness-consciousness) It (mūlaprakṛti) undergoing again change becomes with the preponderance of Satṭva (in it), Āvaraṇa³ Śakti named avyakṭa. That which is reflected in it (Avyakṭa) is Īśvara-Chaitanya. He (Īśvara) has Māyā under his control, is omniscient, the original cause of creation, preservation, and dissolution, and the seed of this universe. He causes the universe which was latent in Him, to manifest itself through the bonds of karma of all creatures like a painted canvas unfurled. Again through the extinction

¹ This Upanishad is so called after the questioner

² Rajas, Satṭva and Tamas colours

³ Āvaraṇa Śakti literally means the veiling or contracting power. This is not that produces egoism. It may be called the centripetal force.

of their karmas, he makes it disappear. In Him alone is latent all the universe, wrapped up like a painted cloth. Then from the supreme (Āvaraṇa) Śakti, dependent on (or appertaining to) Īśvara, arose, through the preponderance of Rajas, Vikshepa¹ Śakti called Mahat. That which is reflected in it is Hiraṇyagarbha-Chaitanya. Presiding (as He does) over Mahat, He (Hiraṇyagarbha) has a body, both manifested and unmanifested.² From Vikshepa Śakti of Hiraṇyagarbha arose, through the preponderance of Tamas, the gross Śakti called ahankāra. That which is reflected in it is Virāt-Chaitanya. He (Virāt) presiding over it (ahankāra) and possessing a manifested body becomes Viṣṇu, the chief Puruṣa and protector of all gross bodies. From that Ātmā arose ākāś, from ākāś arose vāyu, from vāyu agni, from agni apas, and from apas prthivī. The five tanmātras³ (rudimentary properties) alone are the gunas (of the above five). That generating cause of the universe (Īśvara) wishing to create and having assumed ṭamo-guna, wanted to convert the elements which were subtle tanmātras into gross ones. In order to create the universe, he divided into two parts each of those divisible elements, and having divided each moiety into four parts, made a fivefold mixture, each element having moiety of its own original element and one-fourth of a moiety of each of the other elements, and thus evolved out of the fivefold classified gross elements, the many myriads of Brahmāndas (Brahmā's egg or macrocosm), the fourteen worlds pertaining to each sphere, and the spherical gross bodies (microcosm) fit for the (respective) worlds. Having divided the Rajas-essence of the five elements into four parts, He out of three such parts created (the five) prāṇas having fivefold function. Again out of the (remaining) fourth part, He created karmendriyas (the organs of action). Having divided their Sattva-essence into four parts, He out of three such parts created the antahkarana (internal organ) having fivefold

¹ Vikshepa Śakti (B.) is the expanding power. It may be called the centrifugal force.

² The account given here though differing from that in other books may be justified.

³ They are red, touch, form, taste and odour.

function. Out of the (remaining) fourth part of Sāttva-essence, he created the jñānendriyas (organs of sense). Out of the collective totality of Sāttva-essence, He created the devatās (deities) ruling over the organs of sense and actions. Those (devatās) He created, He located in the spheres (pertaining to them). They through His orders, began to pervade the macrocosm. Through His orders, Virat associated with ahankāra created all the gross things. Through His orders, Hiraṇyagarbha protected the subtle things. Without Him, they that were located in their spheres were unable to move or to do anything. Then He wished to infuse cheṭana (life) into them. Having pierced the Brahmāṇḍa (Brahmā's egg or macrocosm) and Brahmarandhras (head-fontanelle) in all the microcosmic heads, He entered within. Though they were (at first) inert, they were then able to perform karmas like beings of intelligence. The omniscient Īśvara entered the microcosmic bodies with a particle of Māyā and being deluded by that Māyā, acquired the state of Jīva. Identifying the three bodies with Himself, He acquired the state of the actor and enjoyer. Associated with the attributes of the states of jāgrat, svapna, sushupti, trance, and death and being immersed in sorrow, he is (whirled about and) deluded like water-lift or potter's wheel, as if subject to birth and death."

ADHYĀYA II

Paingala again addressed Yājñavalkya thus: "How did Īśvara, who is the creator, preserver, and destroyer and the Lord of all the worlds, acquire the state of Jīva?" To which Yājñavalkya replied "I shall tell in detail the nature of Jīva and Īśvara, together with a description of the origin of the gross, subtle, and kāraṇa (causal) bodies. Hear attentively with one-pointed mind.

"Īśvara having taken a small portion of the quintuplicated mahā-bhūtas, (the great elements), made in regular order the gross bodies, both collective and segregate. The skull, the skin, the intestines, bone, flesh, and nails are of the essence of pṛthivī. Blood, urine, saliva, sweat and others are of the essence of

āpas Hunger, thirst, heat, delusion, and copulation are of the essence of agni. Walking, lifting, breathing and others are of the essence of vāyu. Passion, anger, etc., are of the essence of ākāś. The collection of these having touch and the rest is this gross body that is brought about by karma, that is the seat of egoism in youth and other states and that is the abode of many sins. Then He created prāṇas out of the collective three parts of Rajas-essence of the fivefold divided elements. The modifications of prāṇa are prāṇa, apāna, vyāna, udāna, and samāna, nāga, kūrma, krkara, devadaṭṭa and dhanañjaya are the auxiliary prāṇas (Of the first five), the heart, anus, navel, throat and the whole body are respectively the seats. Then He created the karmendriyas out of the fourth part of the Rajas-guṇa. Of ākāś and the rest the mouth, legs, hands, and the organs of secretion and excretion are the modifications. Talking, walking, lifting, excreting, and enjoying are their functions. Likewise out of the collective three parts of Saṭtva-essence, He created the antahkaraṇa (internal organ). Antahkaraṇa,¹ manas, buddhi, chitta, and ahankāra are the modifications. Sankalpa (thought), certitude, memory, egoism, and anusandhāna (inquiry) are their functions. Throat, face, navel,² heart, and the middle of the brow are their seats. Out of the (remaining) fourth part of Saṭtva-essence, He created the jñānendriyas (organs of sense). Ear, skin, eyes, tongue, and nose are the modifications. Sound, touch, form, taste, and odour are their functions. Dik (the quarters), Vāyu, Arka (the sun), Varuṇa, Asvini Devas, Indra, Upendra, Mṛtyu (the God of death), Prajāpati, the Moon, Vishnu the four-faced Brahmā and Sambhu (Śiva) are the presiding deities of the organs. There are the five kośas (sheaths), viz., annamāya, prāṇamāya, manomāya, vijñānamāya, and ānandamāya. Annamāya sheath is that which is created and developed out of the essence of food, and is absorbed into the earth which is of the form of food. It alone is the gross body. The prāṇas with the karmendriyas (organs of action) is the prāṇamāya

¹ The fifth aspect of antahkaraṇa is made to be itself, having the function of annamāya. But, of inquiry, the others call it otherwise.

² Navel is the seat of chitta.

sheath. Manas with the jñānendriyas (organs of sense) is the manomaya sheath. Buddhi with the jñānendriyas is the vijñānamaya sheath. These three sheaths constitute the linga-sarīra (or the subtle body) (That which tends to) the ajñāna (ignorance) of the Reality (of Ātmā) is the ānandamaya sheath. This is the kāraṇa body. Moreover the five organs of sense, the five organs of action, the five prāṇas and others, the five ākāś and other elements, the four internal organs, avidyā, passion, karma, and ṭamas—all these constitute this town (of body).

“Virūt, under the orders of Īśvara having entered this microcosmic body, and having buddhi as his vehicle, reaches the state of Viśva. Then he goes by the several names of Vijñānātma, Chidābhāsa, Viśva, Vyāvahārika, the one presiding over the waking gross body and the one generated by karma. Sūtrātmā, under the orders of Īśvara, having entered the microcosmic subtle body, and having manas as his vehicle, reaches the Taijasa state. Then he goes by the names of taijasā, prātibhāsika and swapnakalpita (the one bred out of dream). Then under the orders of Īśvara, he who is coupled with avyakṭa, the vehicle of Māyā having entered the microcosmic kāraṇa body, reaches the state of prañā. He goes then by the names of prāñā, avichchinna, and pāramārthika and sushupti-abhimānī (the presider over sushupti). Such sacred sentences, as Tatṭvamasī (That art thou) and others, speak of the identity with the Brahman of the Pāramārthika-Jīva enveloped by ajñāna, which is but a small particle of avyakṭa, but not vyāvahārika and prātibhāsika (Jīvas). It is only that chaṭanya which is reflected in anāharaṇa that attains the three states. When it assumes the three states of jāgrat, swapna, and sushupti, it is like a water-lily as if grieved, born and dead. There are five avasthās—jāgrat, swapna, sushupti, mūrच्छā (trance), and death. Jāgrat avasthā is that in which there is the perception of objects, of sound, etc., through the grace of the devatā presiding over each of them. In it, the Jīva, being in the middle of the eyebrows and pervading the body from head to foot, becomes the agent of actions, such as doing, hearing and others. He becomes also the enjoyer of the

fruits thereof, and such a person doing karma for the fruits thereof goes to other worlds and enjoys the same there. Like an emperor tired of worldly acts (in the waking state), he strives to find the path to retire into his abode within. The *svapna avasthā* is that in which, when the senses are at rest, there is the manifestation of the knower and the known, along with the affinities of (things enjoyed in) the waking state. In this state *Viśva* alone, its actions in the waking state having ceased, reaches the state of *Tajasa* (of *tejas* or effulgence), who moves in the middle of the *nādīs* (nerves), illuminates by his lustre the heterogeneity of this universe which is of the form of affinities, and himself enjoys according to his wish. The *sushupti avasthā* is that in which the *chitta* is sole organ (at play). Just as a bird, tired of roaming, flies to its nest with its stomach filled, so the *Jīva* being tired of the actions of the world in the waking and dreaming states, enters *ajñāna* and enjoys bliss. Then trance is attained which resembles death, and in which one with his collection of organs quails, as it were, through fear and *ajñāna*, like one beaten unexpectedly by a hammer, club or any other weapon. Then death *avasthā* is that which is other than the *avasthās* of *jāgrat*, *svapna*, *sushupti*, and trance, which produces fear in all *Jīvas* from *Brahmā* down to small insects and which dissolves the gross body. The *Jīva*, that is surrounded by *avidyā* and the subtle elements, takes with it the organs of sense and action, their objects, and *prānas* along with the *kāmic* *karmas* and goes to another world, assuming another body. Through the ripening of the fruits of previous *karmas*, the *Jīva* has no rest like an insect in a whirlpool. It is only after many births that the desire of emancipation arises in man through the ripening of good karma. Then having resorted to a good Guru and served under him for a long time, one out of many attains *moksha*, free from bondage. Bondage is through non-inquiry and *moksha* through inquiry. Therefore there should always be inquiry (into *Ātmā*). The Reality should be ascertained through *adhyāropa* (illusory attribution) and *vivāda* (withdrawal or recession of that idea). Therefore there

should be always inquiring into the universe, Jīva and Paramātmā. Were the true nature of Jīva and the universe known, then there remains Brahman which is non-different from Pratyagātmā.”

APHYĀYA III

Then Paingala asked Yājñavalkya to offer an exposition on the mahāvākyas (sacred sentences of the Vedas). To which Yājñavalkya replied: “One should scrutinise (the sacred sentences), *Tat tvamasi* (‘That art thou’), *Tvam tadasi* (‘Thou art That’), *Twam brahmāsi* (‘Thou art Brahman’) and *Aham brahmāsmi* (‘I am Brahman’). The word ‘*Tat*’ denotes the cause of the universe that is variegated beyond perception, has the characteristics of omniscience, has *Māyā* as His vehicle and has the attributes of *Sachchidānanda*. It is He that is the basis of the notion ‘I’ which has the differentiated knowledge produced by *añāhkarāṇa*, and it is He that is denoted by the word ‘*Tvam*’ (Thou). That is the undifferentiated Brahman which remains as the aim (or meaning) of the words *Tat* and *Tvam* after freeing itself from *Māyā* and *Avidyā* which are respectively the vehicles of *Paramātmī* and *Jīvātmī*. The inquiry into the real significance of the sentences *Tat tvamasi* and *Aham brahmāsmi* forms (what is called) *śravaṇa* (hearing—the first stage of inquiry). To inquire in solitude into the significance of *śravaṇa* is *manana*. The concentration of the mind with one-pointedness upon that which should be sought after by *śravaṇa* and *manana* is *nididhāna*. *Sanādhi* is that

always rains down in diverse ways Therefore those who know Yoga call this samādhi, dharma-megha (cloud). Through these (modifications of Ātmā), the collection of affinities is absorbed without any remainder whatever When the accumulated good and bad karmas are wholly destroyed, these sentences (Taṭṭvamasī and Ahambrahmāsmi), like the myrobalan in the palm of the hand, bring him face to face with the ultimate Reality, though It was before invisible Then he becomes a Jīvanmukta

“Īśvara wished to produce non-quintuplication (or involution) in the fivefold differentiated elements Having drawn into their cause Brahmā's egg and its effects of worlds, and mixed together the subtle organs of sense and action and the four internal organs and dissolved all things composed of the elements into their cause, the five elements, He then caused prthivī to merge into water, water into agni, agni into vāyu, and vāyu into ākās, ākās into ahankāra, akankāra into mahaṭ, mahat into avyakta, and avyakta into Puruṣa in regular order Virāt, Hiraṇyagarbha and Īśvara being freed from the vehicle of Māyā, are absorbed into Paramātmā This gross body composed of the five differentiated elements and obtained through accumulated karma, is merged into its subtle state of non-quintuplicated elements, through the extinction of (bad) karma and increase of good karma, then attains its kāraṇa (causal) state and (finally) is absorbed into its cause, (viz.,) Kūṭastha-Pratyagātma. Viśva and Taijasa and Prājña, their upādhi (of avidyā) having become extinct, are absorbed in Pratyagātmā This sphere (of universe) being burnt up by the fire of jñāna is absorbed along with its cause into Paramātmā Therefore a Brāhmaṇa should be careful and always meditate upon the identity of Taṭ and Tvam Then Ātmā shines, like the sun freed from the (obscurations of the) clouds One should meditate upon Ātmā in the midst (of the body) like a lamp within a jar

“Ātmā, the Kūṭastha, should be meditated upon as being of the size of a thumb, as being of the nature of the jyotiḥ (light) without smoke, as being within, illuminating all and as being

indestructible That Munī (sage) who meditates (upon Ātmā always) until sleep or death comes upon him passes into the state of (Jīvanmuktī) emancipation like the immovable state of the wind Then there remains that One (Brahman) without sound, touch, free from destruction, without taste or odour, which is eternal, which is without beginning or end, which is beyond the Tattva of Mahat, and which is permanent and without stain or disease ”

ADHYĀYA IV

Then Paingala addressed Yājñavalkya thus “To the wise, what is their karma? And what is their state?” To which Yājñavalkya replied “A lover of moksha, having humility¹ and other possessions (or virtues), enables twenty-one generations to cross (to Ātmā) One through his being a Brahmanīṣ² alone enables 101 generations to cross Know Ātmā to be the rider and the body as the chariot Know also budhī as the charioteer and manas as the reins The wise say the organs are the horses, the objects are the roads (through which the horses travel) and the hearts are the moving balloons Mahārshis say that Ātmā, when associated with the sense organs and manas, is the enjoyer. Therefore it is the actual Nārāyaṇa alone that is established in the heart. Till his prārābha karma³ is worn out, he exists (in his body) as in the (cast-off) slough of a serpent (without any desire for the body) An emancipated person having such a body roves about like a moon gladdening all with no settled place of abode He gives up his body whether in a sacred place, or in a chandāla’s (outcaste’s) house (without any distinction whatever), and attains salvation Such a body (when seen by a person) should be offered as a sacrifice to dik (the quarters) or should be buried (underground) It is only to Puruṣa (the wise) that sannyāsa (renunciation) is ordained and not to others In case of the

¹ Humility and other virtues twenty in number are described in *Bhagavad-Gītā*, Chapter XIII.

² There are four classes of Brahma Jñānis or initiates of whom this is one.

³ That portion of past karma which is being enjoyed in this life

death of an ascetic who is of the form (or has attained the nature) of Brahman, there is no pollution (to be observed) ; neither the ceremonies of fire (as burning the body, homa, etc.), nor the pinda (balls of rice), nor ceremonies of water, nor the periodical ceremonies (monthly and yearly). Just as a food once cooked is not again cooked, so a body once burnt (by the fire of wisdom) should not be burnt (or exposed to fire) again. To one whose body was burnt by the fire of wisdom there is neither s'rāddha¹ (required to be performed), nor (funeral) ceremony. So long as there is the upādhi (of non-wisdom) in one, so long should he serve the Guru. He should conduct himself towards his Guru's wife and children as he does to his Guru. If being of a pure mind, of the nature of immaculate Chit and resigned, and having the discrimination arising from the attainment of wisdom "I am He," he should concentrate his heart on Paramātmā and obtain firm peace in his body, then he becomes of the nature of Jyotiṣ, void of manas and buddhi. Of what avail is milk to one content with nectar? Of what avail are the Vedas to him who has known his Ātmā thus? For a Yogin content with the nectar of wisdom, there is nothing more to be done. If he has to do anything, then he is not a knower of Taṭtva. Pratyagātmā though far (or difficult of attainment), is not far, though in the body, he is devoid of it (since) he is all-pervading. After having purified the heart and contemplated on the One without disease (viz., Brahman), the cognizing of 'I' as the supreme and the all is the highest bliss. Like water mixed with water, milk with milk, and ghee with ghee, so Jīvātmā and Paramātmā are without difference. When the body is rendered bright through wisdom and the buddhi becomes of the partless One, then the wise man burns the bondage of karma through the fire of Brahma-jñāna. Then he becomes purified, of the nature of the non-dual named Parmesvara and the light like the stainless ākāś. Like water mixed with water, so Jīva (-Ātmā) becomes upādhiless (or freed from the bonds of matter). Ātmā is, like ākāś, of an invisible form. (Therefore) the inner Ātmā is invisible like space. Though he is within and without, he is the immovable

¹ The s'rāddha is a ceremony performed for the dead.

Ātmā Through the torch of wisdom, the internal Ātmā sees (or knows).

“A wise man, in whatever place or manner he dies, is absorbed in that place like the all-pervading ākās. It should be known that Ātmā is absorbed as truly as the ākās in the pot (when broken). Then he attains the all-pervading wisdom-light that is without support. Though men should perform ṭapas standing on one leg for a period of 1,000 years, it will not, in the least, be equal to one-sixteenth part of dhyānayoga. One desirous of knowing what jñāna (wisdom) and jñeya (the object to be known) are, will not be able to attain his desired end, even though he may study the Śāstras for 1,000 years. That which is alone should be known as the indestructible. That which exists (in this world) is only impermanent. (Therefore) after having given up (the study of) the many Śāstras, one should worship that which is satya (truth). The many karmas, purity (of mind and heart), japa (the muttering of mantras), sacrifice and pilgrimages—all these should be observed till Tatṭva is known. For Mahātmās (noble souls) to be always in (the conception of) ‘I am Brahman’ conduces to their salvation. There are two causes (that lead) to bondage and emancipation. They are ‘mine’ and ‘not mine’. Through ‘mine’ creatures are bound, whereas through ‘not mine’ they are released from bondage. When the mind attains the state of Unmanī (above manas, viz, when it is destroyed), then there is never the conception of duality. When the Unmanī state occurs, then is the supreme Seat (attained). (After which) wherever the mind goes, there is the supreme Seat (to it, viz, the mind enjoys salvation wherever it is). That which is equal in all is Brahman alone. One may attain the power to strike the ākās with his fist, he may appease his hunger by eating husks (of grain), but never shall he attain emancipation who has not the self-cognition, ‘I am Brahman’.

“Whoever recites this Upanishad becomes as immaculate as Agni. He becomes as pure as Brahmā. He becomes as pure as Vāyu. He becomes like one who has bathed in all the holy waters. He becomes like one who has studied all the Vedas. He becomes like one that has undergone all vedic observances. He

obtains the fruit of the recitation of Itihāsas¹, Purānas and Rudramantras a lakh of times. He becomes like one that has pronounced Pranava (Om) ten thousand times. He purifies his ancestors ten degrees removed and his descendants ten degrees removed. He becomes purified of all those that sit with him for dinner. He becomes a great personage. He becomes purified from the sins of the murder of a Brāhman, the drinking of alcohol, theft of gold, and sexual cohabitation with Gura's wife, and from the sins of associating with those that commit such sins.

"Like the eye pervading the ākas (seeing without effort everything above), a wise man sees (always) the supreme Seat of Vishnu. The Brāhmanas who have always their spiritual eyes wide open praise and illuminate in diverse ways the supreme Seat of Vishnu. Om: This Upanishad is truth."

ADHYĀTMA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

SUKLA-YAJURVEDA

THE One Aja (unborn) is ever located in the cave (of the heart) within the body. (Prthivī) the earth is His body, though He pervades the earth, it does not know Him. The waters are His body, though He pervades the waters, they do not know Him. Agni is His body, though He pervades agni, it does not know Him. Vāyu is His body, though He pervades vāyu, it does not know Him. Ākāś' is His body, though He pervades ākāś, it does not know Him. Manas is His body, though He pervades manas, it does not know Him. Buddhi is His body, though He pervades buddhi, it does not know Him. Ahankāra is His body, though He pervades ahankāra, it does not know Him. Chitta is His body, though He pervades chitta, it does not know Him. Avyakta is His body, though He pervades avyakta, it does not know Him. Akshara is His body, though He pervades akshara, it does not know Him. Mr̥tyu is His body, though He pervades mr̥tyu, it does not know Him. He who is the inner soul of all creatures and the purifier of sins, is the one divine Lord Nārāyaṇa.

The wise should through the practice of deep meditation of Brahman leave off the (recurrent) conception of "I" and "mine" in the body and the senses which are other than Ātmā. Having known himself as Praṭyagātmā, the witness of buddhi and its actions, one should ever think "So'ham" ("I am That") and leave off the idea of Ātmā in all others. Shunning the pursuits of the world, the body and the Sāstras, set about removing the false attribution of self. In the case of a Yogin staying always in his own Ātmā, his mind perishes having known his Ātmā as the Ātmā of all, through inference, Vedas.

¹ This Upanishad is also called Turīya-īṣa Avadhūta Upanishad.

and self-experience. Never giving the slightest scope to sleep, worldly talk, sounds, etc., think of Ātmā (in yourself) to be the (supreme) Ātmā. Shun at a distance like a chandāla (the thought of) the body, which is generated out of the impurities of parents and is composed of excreta and flesh. Then you will become Brahman and be (in a) blessed (state). O Sage, having dissolved (Jīva-) Ātmā into Paramātmā with the thought of its being partless like the ether of a jar in the universal ether, be ever in a state of taciturnity. Having become that which is the seat of all Ātmās and the self-resplendent, give up the macrocosm and microcosm like an impure vessel. Having merged into Chidātmā, which is ever blissful, the conception of "I" which is rooted in the body, and having removed the (conception of) Linga (here the sign of separateness), become ever the Kevala (alone). Having known "I am that Brahman" in which alone the universe appears like a town in a mirror, become one that has performed (all) his duty, O sinless one. The ever-blissful and the self-effulgent One being freed from the grip of ahankāra attains its own state, like the spotless moon becoming full (after eclipse).

With the extinction of actions, there arises the extinction of chintā. From it arises the decay of vāsanās, and from the latter, arises moksha; and this is called Jīvanmukti. Looking upon everything in all places and times as Brahman brings about the destruction of vāsanās through the force of vāsanās of sūttvic nature. Carelessness in Brahmanishthi by (or meditation of Brahman) should not in the least be allowed (to creep in). Knowers of Brahman style (this) carelessness, in Brāhmic science, as death (itself). Just as the moss (momentarily) displaced (in a tank) again resumes its original position, in a minute, so Mīyī envelops even the wise, should they be careless (even for a moment). He who attains the Kevala state during life becomes a Kevala even after death of his body. Ever devoted to samādhi, become a nirvikalpa (or the changeless one), O sinless one. The granthi (or knot) of the heart, full of ajñāna, is broken completely only when one sees his Ātmā as recordless through nirvikalpa samādhi.

The fruit of *varāgya* is *bodha* (spiritual wisdom), the fruit of *bodha* is *uparati* (renunciation), *sānti* (sweet patience) is attained out of the enjoyment of the bliss of one's *Ātman*, and this *sānti* is the fruit of *uparati*. If the latter in each of these is absent, the former is useless. *Nivṛtti* (or the return path) leads to the highest contentment and (spiritual) bliss is said to be beyond all analogy. That which has *Māyā* as its *upādhi* is the womb of the world, that true one which has the attribute of omniscience, etc., and has the variegated mystery is denoted by the word "Tat" (that). That is called *Apura* (the other or inferior) which shines through meditation upon the idea and the

world *asmat*¹ and the consciousness of which is developed by *antahkarana*. By separating the *upādhis* *Māyā* and *avidyā* from *Parā* and *Jīva* (cosmic and human *Ātmās* respectively), one realises *Parabrahman* which is partless and *Sachchidānanda*. Making the mind dwell upon such sentences (or ideas) as the above constitutes *śravaṇa* (hearing). It becomes *manana* (contemplation) when such ideas are quieted (in one) through logical reasoning. When (their) meaning is confirmed through these (two processes), the concentration of the mind on it alone constitutes *nididhyāsana*. That is called *samādhi* in which the *chitta*, rising above the conception of the contemplator and contemplation, merges gradually into the contemplated, like a light undisturbed by the wind. Even the mental states are not known (at the time when one is within the scope of *Ātmā*). But they are only inferred from the recollection which takes place after *samādhi*. Through this *samādhi* are destroyed crores of *karmas* which have accumulated during cycles of births without beginning and pure *dharma* is developed. Knowers of *Yoga* call this *samādhi*, *dharma-megha* (cloud), inasmuch as it showers nectarine drops of *karma* in great quantities, when all the hosts of *vāsanās* are destroyed entirely through this, and when the accumulated *karmas*, virtuous and sinful, are rooted out. Then that in which speech was hidden till now, appears no longer so, and shines as *Sat*, and direct cognition reveals itself, like the myrobalan in the palm of the hand. *Vairāgya* begins from where the *vāsanās* cease to arise towards objects of enjoyment. The cessation of the rising of the idea of "I" is the highest limit of *buddhi*, *uparati* begins from where the mental states once destroyed do not again arise. That ascetic is said to possess *Sthitaprajñā* who enjoys bliss always and whose mind is absorbed in *Brahman* that is formless and speechless. That state of mind is termed *prajñā* that realises the oneness of *Brahman* and *Ātmā* after deep inquiry, and that is the state of *nirvikalpa* and *chinnaitra*. He who possesses this state is a *Jivanmukta*. He is a *Jivanmukta* who has not the conception of "I" in the body and the senses, nor

the conception of another (different from himself) in everything else. He is a Jīvanmukta who sees through his prajñā no difference between his own Ātmā and Brahman as well as between Brahman and the universe. He is a Jīvanmukta who preserves equanimity of mind, either when revered by the good or reviled by the vicious. One who has cognized the true nature of Brahman is not subject to rebirth as before. But were he so subjected, then he is not a true knower, the knowing of Brahman being external only. A man is subject to prārabdha¹ so long as he is affected by pleasure, etc. The attainment of a result is always preceded by action, and nowhere is it without karma. Through the cognition "I am Brahman" are destroyed the karmas accumulated during hundreds of crores of previous births, like the actions in the dreaming state (that are destroyed) during the waking state.

An ascetic having known himself as associateless and indifferent like ether, is not at all affected by any of his karmas at any time. Just as the ether is not affected by the alcoholic smell through its contact with a pot, so Ātmā is not affected by the gunas produced by its upādhi. The prārabdha karma that has begun to act before the dawn of jñāna is not checked by it, and one should reap its fruit, as in the case of an arrow discharged at a target. An arrow that is discharged towards an object with the idea that it is a tiger, does not stop when it (the tiger) is found to be a cow, but it (even) pierces the mark through its speed, without stopping. When one realises his Ātmā as free from old age and death, then how will prārabdha affect him? Prārabdha accomplishes (its work) only when one considers his body as Ātmā. This conception of Ātmā as body is not at all a desirable one, so it should be given up along with prārabdha, since it is simply a delusion to attribute prārabdha to this body. How can there be reality to that which is superimposed upon another? How can there be birth to that which is not real? How can there be death to that which is not born? How can there be prārabdha to that which is unreal? The Veda speaks of prārabdha in an external sense only, to satisfy those

¹ The result of past karma now enjoyed

foolish persons that doubt, saying "If jñāna can destroy all the results of ajñāna (such as body, etc.), then whence is the existence of this body to such a one?" but not to inculcate to the wise the existence of the body

Ātmā is all-full, beginningless, endless, immeasurable, unchangeable, replete with Sat, Chit, and Ānanda, decayless, the one essence, the eternal, the differentiated, the plenum, the endless, having its face everywhere, the one that can neither be given up nor taken up, the one that can neither be supported nor be made to support, the gunaless, the actionless, the subtle, the changeless, the stainless, the indescribable, the true nature of one's Ātmā, above the reach of speech and mind, the one full of Sat, the self-existent, the immaculate, the enlightened, and the incomparable, such is Brahman, one only without a second. There are not in the least many. He who knows his Ātmā himself through his own cognition, as the one who is not restricted by any, is a Siddha (one that has accomplished his object), who has identified his Ātmā with the one changeless Ātmā. Whither is this world gone, then? How did it appear? Where is it absorbed? It was seen by me just now, but now it is gone. What a great miracle! What is fit to be taken in? and what to be rejected? What is other (than Ātmā)? And what is different (from It)? In this mighty ocean of Brahman full of the nectar of undivided bliss, I do not see, hear, or know anything. I remain in my Ātmā only and in my own nature of Sat, Ānandarūpa. I am an asanga (or the associateless). I am an asanga. I am without any attributes. I am Hari (the Lord taking away sin). I am the quiescent, the endless, the all-full and the ancient. I am neither the agent nor the enjoyer. I am the changeless and the decayless. I am of the nature of pure enlightenment. I am the one and the perpetual bliss.

This science was imparted to Apāṇataṁama who gave it to Brāhmā. Brāhmā gave it to Ghora-Angiras. Ghora-Angiras gave it to Rukvi, who gave it to Rāma. And Rāma gave it to all beings. This is the teaching of Nirvāna, and this is the teaching of the Vedas, yea, this is the teaching of the Vedas. Thus ends the Upanishad.

SUBĀLA-UPANISHAD

OF

SUKLA-YAJURVEDA

KHANDA I

THEN he (Raikva¹) asked : " What was at first ? " To which (He the Lord) replied

" There was neither Sat ² nor asat nor Sat-asat From it, *tamas* (darkness) was evolved From *ṭamas* came *bhūtādi*,³ from *bhūtādi* came *ākāś*, from *ākāś*, *vāyu*, from *vāyu*, *agni* (fire), from *agni*, *āpas* (water), and from *āpas*, *prthivī* (earth) Then it became an egg After remaining so for one (divine) year, it split into two and became earth below,⁴ the *ākāś* above and in the midst, the infinite *Purusha* of a divine form of myriads of heads, eyes, feet and hands Prior to the *bhūtas* (elements), he had evolved *Mṛtyu* (time or death) of three letters ⁵, three heads, and three feet, and having a *khanda-parasū* ⁶ (broken

¹ In the *Chhandogya Upanishad*, *Raikva* is said to be the impartor of *Samvargavidvā*

² The absolute (*Parabrahman*) is neither *Sat* (Be ness) nor *asat* (not Be ness) nor a commingling of both It is neither spirit nor matter nor a commingling of both

³ *Bhūtādi* is *ṭamasā bhānkāra* according to *Vishnu Purāṇa*

⁴ "Above and below" refers not to the position but only to the state, of matter gross or subtle "In the midst" implies that *ākāś* and earth are soaked in and with spirit

⁵ This refers to the first triune manifestation of *Purusha* or spirit through time when only there is activity *Mṛtyu* or *Kala* is the first manifestation whereas *Yama* (or the God of death) is the secondary one dealing with the death of creatures lower down

⁶ *Khandā* means divided or with parts *Parasū* literally any weapon other Hence *Mṛtyu* with his *khandā parasū* divided *Parabrahman* into two parts and conditions the absolute through phenomenal matter In the *Purāṇas* and other books *Mṛtyu* and *Yama* are represented as having an altercation in a conflict

axe). To him, Brahmā (the Purusha) spoke "He entered Brahmā himself and evolved mentally the seven sons¹ and these Havirāts (or sons) as well as the seven prajāpatis (progenitors) Brāhmanas² were born from His mouth, Kshattriyas from His hands, Vaisyas from His thighs, and from the feet were born the Śudras. The moon was born from His manas (mind), the sun from His eyes, vāyu from (His) ears and prānas from (His) heart. Thus all things were born."

KHAṆḌA II

"From apāna came Nishādas, Yakshas, Rākshasas, and Gandharvas. From (His) bones, arose the mountains. From His hairs arose the herbs and the trees. From His forehead, Rudra was born through His anger. The breath of this great Being became the Rgveda, Yajurveda, Sāmaveda, Atharvaveda, Śikshā (the science of the proper pronunciation and articulation of sounds), Kalpa (the science of methodology), Vyākaraṇa (grammar), Nirukta (glossarial explanation of obsolete and other terms in Vedas), Chhandas (prosody or vedic metre), Jyotisha (astronomy), Nyāya (logic), Mīmāṃsā (including rituals and vedānta), Dharmasāstras, commentaries, glosses and all beings. This Ātmā (or the Self of Purusha) is Hiranyajyotiḥ (or golden or effulgent Light) into which all the universe is absorbed. He divided Ātmā (his Self) into two moieties, out of one moiety, the woman was created, and out of the other, man. Having become a Deva, He created the Devas. Having become a Rshi, He created the Rshis, also He created Yakshas, Rākshasas, Gandharvas, wild and domestic beasts and others such as cows, bulls, mares and horses, she-asses and asses and Visvambhara (the Supporter) and Visvambharā (the earth). Becoming Vaisvānara (fire) at the end (of creation), He burnt up all objects. Then (in dissolution), prthivī was absorbed in āpas, āpas in agni, agni in vāyu, vāyu in ākas, ākas in indriyas (organs),

¹ This refers to the temporary manifestation from the triune one, also to the entire creation.

² In other words beings of Satva, Rajas and Tamas and an admixture of them were born.

indriyas into tanmātras (rudimentary properties), tanmātras into bhūtādi, bhūtādi into mahat, mahat into avyakta, avyakta into akshara (the indestructible), akshara into tamas (darkness). And tamas becomes one with the supreme Lord And then there is neither Sat nor asat, nor Sat-asat This is the teaching of Nirvāna and this is the teaching of the Vedas Yea, This is the teaching of the Vedas ”

KHAṆḌA III

“ At first, there was Asat, unborn, non-existent, unsupported, soundless, touchless, formless, tasteless, odourless, and decayless The undaunted man never grieves, as he knows Ātmā to be great, all-pervading and unborn It (Ātmā) is prāṇaless, mouthless, earless, tongueless, manas-less, tejās-less, eyeless, nameless, goṣṭraless (or clauless), headless, handless, feetless, non-unctuous, bloodless, non-measurable, neither long nor short, neither gross nor atomic, neither great nor small, endless, indescribable, non-returnable, non-luminous, not hidden, having neither inside nor outside, neither eating anything nor being eaten by others Some one (out of many) attains to this (Ātmā) by the six means of satya (truth), dāna (charity), tṛpas (religious austerities), non-injury to any creature, celibacy and complete indifference to worldly objects,¹ and there are no other means Whoever feels happy with the thought ‘I know That’, that learned person’s prāṇa will never get out of his body at the moment of death, but will become absorbed in Brahman, and being absorbed in Brahman, he attains the state of Brahman Itself as he who knows this ”

KHAṆḌA IV

“ In the middle of the heart is a red fleshy mass in which is the dāhara-lotus Like the lotus it opens into many (petals) There are ten openings in the heart The (different kinds of) prāṇas are located there Whenever he (Ātmā) is united with

¹ The word anāsakena (non-injury) is repeated in the text which is wrong

prāna, he sees cities with rivers and other variegated things ; when united with vyāna, he sees Devas and Rshis, when united with apāna, he sees Yakshas, Rākshasas and Gandharvas, when united with udāna, he perceives the celestial world, Devas, Skanda (Kārtikeya or the six-faced Mars), and Jayanṭa (Indra's son), when united with samāna, he sees the celestial world and the treasures (of Kubera), when united with rambhā (a nāḍi hereafter given out), he sees whatever is seen or not seen, heard or not heard, eaten or not eaten, asat or Sat and all else.

“There are ten nāḍis, in each of these are seventy-one. And these become 72,000 branch nāḍis. When Ātmā sleeps therein, it produces sound, but when Ātmā sleeps in the second kośa (or sheath) then it sees this world and the higher as also knows all the sounds. This is spoken of as samprasāda (deep sleep rest). Then prāna protects the body. The nāḍis are full of blood, of the colours green, blue, yellow, red, and white. Now this dahara-lotus has many petals like a lily. Like a hair divided into 1,000 parts, the nāḍis called hṛta are. The divine Ātmā sleeps in the ākāś' of the heart, in the supreme kośa (or ānandamaya sheath), sleeping there, it has no desires, no dreams, no deva-worlds, no yajñas or sacrifice, no mother or father, no relative, no kinsman, no thief, or no Brāhman-slayer. Its body is tejās (resplendent effulgence) and of the nature of nectar (or the immortal). It is as if in sport, a water-lotus. When he returns again to the waking state by the same way (he quitted or went in before to the heart), he is Samrāt¹. Thus says he.”

KHAṆḌA V²

“That which joins one place (or centre) with another is the nāḍis which bind them. The eye is adhyātmā (pertaining to the body), the visible objects are ādhibhūta (pertaining to the

¹ Lt., one producing sound.

² In this chapter are given out the several correspondences of the devas (or the prevailing spiritual deities) and of the objects to the five organs of sense, the five organs of action, and the antahkarana (or lower mind) composed of manas, buddhi, and citta.

elements) and the sun is *adhidaiva* (spiritual). The *nādis* form their bond (or connect them) He who moves in the eye, in the visible, in the sun, in the *nādis*, in *prāna*, in *viñāna*,¹ in *ānanda*, in the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā*. It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

“The ear is *adhyātma*, the audible *adhibhūta*, and *dik* (the quarters) is *adhidaiva* The *nādis* bind them He who moves in the ear, in the audible, in the quarters, in the *nādis*, in *prāna*, in *viñāna*, in *ānanda*, in the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā* It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

“The nose is *adhyātma*, the odoriferous *adhibhūta*, and the earth is *adhidaiva* The *nādis* bind them He who moves in the nose, the odoriferous, the earth, the *nādis*, *prāna*, *viñāna*, *ānanda*, the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā*. It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end

“The tongue is *adhyātma* the tastable *adhibhūta*, and *Varuna* is *adhidaiva* The *nādis* bind them. He who moves in the tongue, the tastable, *Varuna*, the *nādis*, *prāna*, *viñāna*, *ānanda*, the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā* It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end

“The skin is *adhyātma*, the tangiferous *adhibhūta*, and the *vāyu* is *adhidaiva* The *nādis* bind them He who moves in the skin, the tangiferous, the *vāyu*, the *nādis*, *prāna*, *viñāna*, *ānanda*, the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā* It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end

“*Vāk* (speech) is *adhyātma*, that which is acted upon by *vāk* is *adhibhūta*, and *Agni* is *Adhidaiva* The *nādis* bind them He who moves in *vāk*, that which is acted upon by *vāk*, *Agni*, the *nādis*, *prāna*, *viñāna*, the *ākāś* of the heart, and within all else—That is *Ātmā* It is that which should be worshipped It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end

¹ Probably *prāna*, *viñāna*, and *ānanda* refer to the sheaths formed by them

"The hand is adhyātma, that which can be handled is adhibhūta, and Indra is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in the hand, that which can be handled by it, Indra, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

"The feet is adhyātma, that which is walked upon is adhibhūta, and Vishnu (or Upendra) is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in the feet, that which is walked upon, Vishnu, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

"The anus is adhyātma, the excreta is adhibhūta, and Mrtyu is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves the anus, the excreta, Mrtyu, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

"The genitals is adhyātma, the secretion is adhibhūta, and Prajāpati is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in the genitals, secretion, Prajāpati, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

"Manas is adhyātma, the thinkable is adhibhūta, and the moon is Adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in the manas, the thinkable, the moon, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

"Buddhi is adhyātma, the certainly knowable is adhibhūta, and Brahmā is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in buddhi, the certainly knowable, Brahmā, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That

¹ "The object is the external manas, buddhi, etc. as in the middle ye they are united here as in the Brahmananda."

is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

“Ahankāra is adhyātma, that which is acted upon by ahankāra is adhibhūta, and Rudra is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in ahankāra, that which is acted upon by ahankāra, Rudra, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

“Chitta is adhyātma, that which is acted upon by chitta (producing fluctuation of thought) is adhibhūta, and Kshetrajña is adhidaivata. The nādis bind them. He who moves in chitta, that which is acted upon by chitta, Kshetrajña, the nādis, prāṇa, vijñāna, ānanda, the ākāś of the heart, and within all else—That is Ātmā. It is that which should be worshipped. It is without old age, death, fear, sorrow, or end.

“He is the knower of all, the Lord of all, the ruler of all, the one latent in all, the one worshipped for the happiness of all, but Himself not worshipping (or seeking) any happiness, the one worshipped by all, the Vedas and other books and to which all this is food, but who does not become the food of another, moreover, the one who, as the eye, is the ordainer of all, the one who as annamaya is Bhūtātma, the one who as prāṇamaya is Indriyātma, the one as manomaya is Sankalpātma, the one who as vijñānamaya is Kālātma, the one who as ānandamaya is Layātma, is one and not dual. How can it be said to be mortal? How can it be said that there is not immortality in It? It is neither internal prajñā nor external prajñā nor both, nor Prajñānaghana, it is neither prajñā nor not-prajñā, it is neither known nor is it to know anything. Thus is the exposition of Nirvāṇa, and thus is the exposition of the Vedas, yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas.”

KHAṆDA VI

“At first there was not anything in the least. These creatures were born through no root, no support but the Divine Deva, the one Nārāyaṇa.¹ The eye and the visible are Nārāyaṇa,

¹ Nārāyaṇa is the Universal Self. This chapter gives out the pantheistic theory that the whole universe is nothing but God Nārāyaṇa.

the ear and the audible are Nārāyaṇa, the tongue and the 'tastable' are Nārāyaṇa, the nose and the 'smellable' are Nārāyaṇa, the skin and the tangible are Nārāyaṇa, manas and that which is acted upon by it are Nārāyaṇa, buddhi and that which is acted upon by it are Nārāyaṇa, ahankāra and that which is acted upon by it are Nārāyaṇa, chitta and that which is acted upon by it are Nārāyaṇa, vāk and that which is spoken are Nārāyaṇa, the hand and that which is lifted are Nārāyaṇa, the leg and that which is walked upon are Nārāyaṇa, the anus and the excreted are Nārāyaṇa, the genitals and the enjoyment of pleasure are Nārāyaṇa. The originator and the ordainer as also the agent and the causer of changes, are the Divine Deva Nārāyaṇa only. Ādityas, Rudras, Maruts, Vasus, Aśvins, the Rik, Yajus, and Sāma, Mantras, Agni, clarified butter and oblation—all these are Nārāyaṇa. The origin and the combination are the Divine Deva Nārāyaṇa only. Mother, father, brother, residence, asylum, friends and dependents are Nārāyaṇa only. The divine nādis known as virājā, sudarśanā, jīṭā, saumyā, moghā, kumārā, amṛtā, satyā, sunadhyamā, nāsirā, śisīrā, surā, sūryā, and bhāsvatī (fourteen nādis in all), that which thunders, sings and rains, *viz*, Varuna, Aryamā (sun), Chandramas (moon), Kalā (part), Kavī (Śukra), the creator Brahmā and Prajāpati, Indra, Kāla (or time) of days, half-days, Kalpa, the upper, and the directions—all these are Nārāyaṇa. That which was and will be is this Purusha only. Like the eye (which sees without any obstacle) the thing spread in the ākāś, the wise ever see this supreme seat of Viṣṇu. Brāhmanas who are ever spiritually awake, praise in diverse ways and illuminate the supreme abode of Viṣṇu. Thus is the exposition to the attaining of Nivāna, thus is the teaching of the Vedas, *vea*, thus is the teaching of the Vedas "

KHAṆḌA VII

" Within the body, is the one eternal Aja (unborn), located in the cave (of the heart). Earth is His body. Though He moves in the earth, earth does not know Him. Waters are His

body Though He moves in the waters, waters do not know Him. Tejas is His body. Though He moves in tejas, tejas does not know Him Vāyu is His body. Though He moves in vāyu, vāyu does not know Him Ākāś is His body Though He moves in ākāś, ākāś does not know Him Manas is His body Though He moves in manas, manas does not know Him Buddhi is His body Though He moves in buddhi, buddhi does not know Him Ahankāra is His body. Though He moves in ahankāra, ahankāra does not know Him Chitta is His body Though He moves in chitta, chitta does not know Him Avyakta is His body Though He moves in avyakta, avyakta does not know Him Akshara is His body Though He moves in akshara, akshara does not know Him Mrtyu (death) is His body. Though He moves in Mrtyu, Mrtyu does not know Him Such an one is the Ātmā within all creatures, the remover of all sins and the Divine Deva, the one Nārāyaṇa

“This knowledge was imparted (by Nārāyaṇa) to Apāṇtarāṭma who in turn imparted it to Brahmā Brahmā imparted it to Ghora-Angiras He imparted it to Raikva, who in turn imparted it to Rāma Rāma imparted it to all creatures This is the teaching of Nirvāṇa, this is the teaching of the Vedas, yea, this is the teaching of the Vedas.”

KHAṆḌA VIII

“The Ātmā of all which is immaculate, is located within the cave in the body. Ātmā which lives in the midst of the body filled with fat, flesh and phlegm in a seat very closely shut up with shining many-coloured walls resembling a Gandharva city and with the (subtle) essence going out of it (to other parts of the body), which seat may be likened to a plantain flower and is ever agitated like a water-bubble—this Ātmā is of an unthinkable form, the Divine Deva, associateless and pure, has tejas as its body, is of all forms, the Lord of all, the unthinkable and the bodiless, placed within the cave, immortal, shining, and bliss itself He is a wise person who cognizes Ātmā thus, and not one who does not do so”

KHAṆḌA IX

Once Raikva questioned Him (Lord) thus “O Lord, in whom does everything disappear (or merge)?” He replied thus: “That which (or he who) disappears in the eye becomes the eye only, that which disappears in the visible becomes the visible only, that which disappears in the sun becomes sun only, that which disappears in Virāt becomes Virāt only, that which disappears in prāṇa becomes prāṇa only, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in ānanda becomes ānanda only, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes ṭurya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the ear becomes ear itself, that which disappears in the audible becomes the audible only, that which disappears in dīk (space) becomes dīk only, that which disappears in sudarāsana (discus) becomes sudarāsana only that which disappears in apāna becomes apāna only, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in ānanda become ānanda only, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes ṭurya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the nose becomes nose only, that which disappears in the odoriferous becomes odoriferous only, that which disappears in pṛthivī becomes pṛthivī only, that which disappears in jītaṃ (victory) becomes victory only, that which disappears in vyāna becomes vyāna only, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the mouth becomes the mouth only, that which disappears in the tasted becomes the tasted only, that which disappears in Varuna becomes Varuna only, that which disappears in soumya

(moon or Mercury) becomes soumya only, that which disappears in udāna becomes udāna only, that which disappears in viññāna becomes viññāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless.”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the skin becomes the skin only, that which disappears in touch becomes touch only, that which disappears in vāyu becomes vāyu only, that which disappears in cloud becomes cloud only, that which disappears in samāna becomes samāna only, that which disappears in viññāna becomes viññāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in turya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless ”

Then He continued “That which disappears in vāk becomes vāk only, that which disappears in speech becomes speech only, that which disappears in Agni becomes Agni only, that which disappears in kumārā becomes kumārā only, that which disappears in hostility becomes hostility itself; that which disappears in viññāna become viññāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in turya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless ”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the hand becomes the hand only, that which disappears in that which is lifted by the hand becomes that which is lifted by the hand, that which disappears in Indra becomes Indra only, that which disappears in the nectar becomes the nectar only, that which disappears in mukhya becomes mukhya only, that which disappears in viññāna becomes viññāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya only—(all these) attain, that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless ”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the leg becomes the leg only, that which disappears in that which is walked upon becomes that which is walked upon, that which disappears

in Vishnu becomes Vishnu only, that which disappears in satya becomes satya only, that which disappears in the suppression of the breath and voice becomes the suppression of the breath and voice, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in turya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the anus becomes the anus only, that which disappears in that which is excreted becomes that which is excreted, that which disappears in Mrtyu becomes Mrtyu only, that which disappears in spirituous liquor becomes spirituous liquor only, that which disappears in hurricane becomes hurricane only, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in turya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in the genitals becomes the genitals only, that which disappears in that which is enjoyed becomes that which is enjoyed, that which disappears in that which is Prajāpati becomes Prajāpati only, that which disappears in nāsīnām becomes nāsīnām only, that which disappears in kurmira becomes kurmira only, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna only, that which disappears in bliss becomes bliss only, that which disappears in turya becomes turya only—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued “That which disappears in manas becomes manas itself, that which disappears in the thinkable becomes the thinkable itself, that which disappears in the moon becomes the moon itself, that which disappears in sisu becomes sisu itself, that which disappears in syena becomes syena itself, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna itself, that which disappears in ānanda becomes ānanda itself, that which disappears in turya becomes turya itself—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless”

Then He continued "That which disappears in buddhi becomes buddhi itself, that which disappears in the certainly knowable becomes the certainly knowable itself, that which disappears in Brahmā becomes Brahmā himself, that which disappears in Kṛṣṇa becomes Kṛṣṇa himself, that which disappears in Sūrya becomes Sūrya itself, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna itself, that which disappears in ānanda becomes ānanda itself, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya itself—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless."

Then He continued. "That which disappears in ahankāra becomes ahankāra itself, that which disappears in that which is acted upon by ahankāra becomes that itself, that which disappears in Rudra becomes Rudra himself, that which disappears in asura becomes asura itself, that which disappears in s'veta becomes s'veta itself, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna itself, that which disappears in ānanda becomes ānanda itself, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya itself—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless "

Then He continued "That which disappears in chitta becomes chitta itself, that which disappears in that which is acted upon by chitta becomes that itself, that which disappears in Kṣhetrajña becomes Kṣhetrajña itself, that which disappears in bhāsvatī becomes bhāsvatī itself, that which disappears in nāga becomes nāga itself, that which disappears in vijñāna becomes vijñāna itself, that which disappears in ānanda becomes ānanda itself, that which disappears in ṭurya becomes turya itself—(all these) attain that which is deathless, fearless, sorrowless, endless, and seedless "

"He who knows this as seedless in this manner becomes himself seedless. He is neither born, nor dies, nor is deluded, nor split, nor burnt, nor cut—yea, he does not feel angry, and hence he is said to be Ātmā, capable of burning all. Such an Ātmā is neither attained by a hundred sayings, nor by (the reading of) many scriptures, nor by mere intelligence, nor by hearing from others, nor by understanding, nor by Vedas, nor

by scriptures, nor by severe tapas, nor sâṅkhya, nor yoga, nor observances of the orders of the life, nor by any other means (than the following) Devoted Brāhmanas who repeat the Vedas according to rules and who worship Him with praise attain Him He who is quiescent, self-controlled, indifferent to worldly objects and resigned, having centred his mind on Ātmā sees Ātmā and becomes one with the Ātmā of all, as also he who knows this ”

KHAṆDA X

Then Raikva asked Him “O Lord, where do all things rest? He replied “In the worlds of Rasātala (or nether worlds) ”

“In what are these (Rasātala worlds) woven warp and woof?” He replied “In the worlds of Bhūh ”

“In what are these (worlds of Bhūh) woven warp and woof?” He replied “In the worlds of Bhuvah ”

“In what are these (Bhuvah worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the worlds of Suvah ”

“In what are these (Suvah worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the worlds of Mahah ”

“In what are these (Mahah worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the Janaloka ”

“In what are these (Jana worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the Tapoloka ”

“In what are these (Tapolokas) woven warp and woof?” “In the Satya loka ”

“In what are these (Satya worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the Prajāpati loka ”

“In what are these (Prajāpati worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the Brahmaloika ”

“In what are these (Brahma worlds) woven warp and woof?” “In the Sarvaloka ”

“In what are these (Sarva lokas) woven warp and woof?” “In Ātmā—which is Brahman, like beads (in a rosary) warp-wise and woof-wise ”

Then he said “All these rest in Ātmā, and he who knows this, becomes Ātmā itself Thus is the exposition of Nirvāṇa

Thus is the exposition of the Vedas , yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

KHAṆḌA XI

Again Raikva asked Him "O Lord! what is the seat of Ātmā which is replete with vijñāna? and how does it leave the body and pervade the universe?" To this He replied "There is a mass of red flesh in the middle of the heart. In it, there is a lotus called dahara. It buds forth in many petals like a water-lily. In the middle of it is an ocean (samudra).¹ In its midst is a koka² (bird). In it there are four nādis. They are ramā, aramā, Ichchhā and punarbhava. Of these, ramā leads a man of virtue to a happy world. Aramā leads one of sins into the world of sins. (Passing) through Ichchhā (nādi), one gets whatever he remembers. Through punarbhava, he splits open the sheaths, after splitting open the sheaths, he splits open the skull of the head, then he splits open prthivī, then āpas, then tejas, then vāyu, then ākāś. Then he splits open manas, then bhūtādi; then mahat, then avyakṭa, then akshara, then he splits open mṛtyu and mṛtyu becomes one with the supreme God. Beyond this, there is neither Saṭ nor asaṭ, nor Saṭ-asaṭ. Thus is the exposition of Nirvāna, and thus is the exposition of the Vedas, yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

KHAṆḌA XII³

"Anna (food) came from Nārāyaṇa. It was first cooked in Brahmaloṇa in the Mahā-samvartaka fire. Again it was cooked in the sun, again it was cooked in kravyādi (lit, the fire that burns raw flesh, etc), again it was cooked in jwālakīla (the flaming kīla), then it became pure and not stale (or fresh). One should eat whatever has fallen to his lot and without begging, one should never beg any (food) "

¹ The ocean probably refers to ākāśic space

² Koka probably refers to Hamsa

³ In this chapter are related the different fires, the first or primordial anna or food-substance has to pass through in order to become the gross food.

KHANDA XIII

"The wise man should conduct himself like a lad, with the nature of a child, without company, blameless, silent and wise and without exercising any authority. This description of Kaivalya is stated by Prajāpati. Having found with certitude the supreme seat, one should dwell under a tree with torn cloths, unaccompanied, single and engaged in samādhi. He should be longing after the attaining of Ātmā and having attained this object, he is desireless, his desires have decayed. He fears none, though he finds the cause of death in such as elephants, lions, gadflies, mosquitoes, ichneuma, serpents, Yakshas, Rākshasas, and Gandharvas. He will stand like a tree. Though cut down, he will neither get angry nor tremble. He will stand (or remain) like a lotus. Though pierced, he will neither get angry nor tremble. He will stand like ākāś, though struck, he will neither get angry nor tremble. He will stand by Satya (truth), since Ātmā is Satya.

"Pṛthivī is the heart (or centre) of all odours, āpas is the heart of all tastes, tejas is the heart of all forms, vāyu is the heart of all touch; ākāś is the heart of all sounds, avyakta is the heart of gītās (or sounds); mṛtyu is the heart of all Sattvas, and mṛtyu becomes one with the Supreme. And beyond Him, there is neither Saṅ nor asat, nor Sat-asat. Thus is the exposition of Nīrvāna; thus is the exposition of the Vedas; yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

KHANDA XIV¹

"Pṛthivī is the food, and āpas is the eater, āpas is the food, and jyotis (or fire) is the eater, jyotis is the food, and vāyu is the eater; vāyu is the food, and ākāś is the eater, and ākāś is the food and the indriyas (organs) are the eaters, indriyas are the food and manas is the eater, manas is the food, and buddhi is the eater, buddhi is the food, and avyakta is the eater, avyakta is the food, and akshara is the eater, akshara is the food, and

¹ In the original text, the cause of an effect becomes the effect of that cause.

mṛtyu is the eater, and mṛtyu becomes one with the Supreme Beyond Him, there is neither Saṭ nor asaṭ, nor Sat-asat. Thus is the exposition of Nirvāṇa, and thus is the exposition of the Vedas, yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

KHAṆḌA XV

Again Raikva asked "O Lord, when this Viññāna-ghana goes out (of the body or the universe), what does it burn and how?" To which He replied "When it goes away, it burns prāṇa, apāṇa, vyāṇa, udāna, samāna, vairambha, mukhya, anṭar-yāma, prabhañjana, kumāra, syena, kṛṣṇa, sveta, and nāga. Then it burns prthivī, āpas, tejās, vāyu, and ākāś, then it burns the waking, the dreaming, the dreamless sleeping and the fourth states as well as the maharlokas and worlds higher, then it burns the lokāloka (the highest world forming a limit to the other worlds). Then it burns dharma and adharma. Then it burns that which is beyond, is sunless, limitless, and worldless. Then it burns mahat, it burns avyakta, it burns akshara, it burns mṛtyu, and mṛtyu becomes one with the great Lord. Beyond Him, there is neither Saṭ nor asaṭ, nor Sat-asat. Thus is the exposition of Nirvāṇa, and thus is the exposition of the Vedas, yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

KHAṆḌA XVI

"This Subāla-Bīja-Brahma-Upanishad should neither be given out nor taught to one who has not controlled his passions, who has no sons, who has not gone to a Guru, and having become his disciple has not resided with him for a year, and whose family and conduct are not known. These doctrines should be taught to him who has supreme devotion to the Lord and as much to his Guru. Then these truths shine in his great soul. Thus is the exposition of Nirvāṇa, thus is the exposition of the Vedas, yea, thus is the exposition of the Vedas."

TEJOBINDU¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

CHAPTER I

PARAM-DHYĀNA (the supreme meditation) should be upon *tejobindu*, which is the *Ātmā* of the universe, which is seated in the heart, which is of the size of an atom, which pertains to *Śiva*, which is quiescent and which is gross and subtle, as also above these qualities. That alone should be the *dhyāna* of the *Munis* as well as of men, which is full of pains, which is difficult to meditate on, which is difficult to perceive, which is the emancipated one, which is decayless and which is difficult to attain. One whose food is moderate, whose anger has been controlled, who has given up all love for society, who has subdued his passions, who has overcome all pairs (heat and cold etc.), who has given up his egoism, who does not bless anyone nor take anything from others, and also who goes where they naturally ought not to go, and naturally would not go where they like to go—such persons also obtain three² in the face. *Hamsa* is said to have three seats. Therefore know it is the greatest of mysteries, without sleep and without support. It is very subtle, of the form of *Soma*, and is the supreme seat of *Vishnu*. That seat has three faces, three *gunas* and three *dhātus*, and is formless, motionless, changeless, sizeless, and supportless. That seat is without *upādhi*, and is above the reach of speech and

¹ *Tej* is spiritual light and *bindu* is seed, hence the seed or source of spiritual light.

² This probably refers to the triangle appearing in the disciples

mind. It is Svabhāva (Self or nature) reachable only by bhāva (being). The indestructible seat is associateless, without bliss, beyond mind, difficult to perceive, emancipated and changeless. It should be meditated upon as the liberated, the eternal, the permanent and the indestructible. It is Brahman, is adhyātma (or the deity presiding as Ātmā) and is the highest seat of Vishnu. It is inconceivable, of the nature of Chidātmā and above the ākāś, is void and non-void, and beyond the void, and is abiding in the heart. There is (in It) neither meditation nor meditator, nor the meditated, nor the non-meditated. It is not the universe. It is the highest space, it is neither supreme nor above the supreme. It is inconceivable, unknowable, non-truth, and not the highest. It is realised by the Muns, but the Devas do not know the supreme One. Avarice, delusion, fear, pride, passion, anger, sin, heat, cold, hunger, thirst, thought and fancy—(all these do not exist in It). (In It) there is no pride of (belonging to) the Brāhmaṇa caste, nor is there the collection of the knot of salvation. (In It) there is no fear, no happiness, no pains, neither fame nor disgrace. That which is without these states is the supreme Brahman.

Yama¹ (forbearance), niyama (religious observance), tyāga (renunciation), mouna (silence) according to time and place, āsana (posture), mūlabandha, seeing all bodies as equal, the position of the eye, prāṇa-samyamana (control of breath), pratyāhāra (subjugation of the senses), dhāraṇa, ātma-dhyāna and samādhi—these are spoken of as the parts (of yoga) in order. That is called yama in which one controls all his organs (of sense and actions) through the vijñāna that all is Brahman, this should be practised often and often. Niyama, in which there is the supreme bliss enjoyed through the flowing (or inclination) of the mind towards things of the same (spiritual) kind, (*viz.*, Brahman) and the abandoning of things differing from one another is practised by the sages as a rule. In tyāga (renunciation), one abandons the manifestations (or objects) of the universe through the cognition of Ātmā that is Sat and Chit. This is practised by the great and is the giver of immediate salva-

¹ All these parts of yoga are explained here from the standpoint of vedānta.

tion Mouna (the silence), in which, without reaching That, speech returns along with mind, is fit to be attained by the Yogins and should be ever worshipped by the ignorant (even) How is it possible to speak of "That", from which speech returns? How should it be described as the universe as there is no word to describe it? It is "That" which is (really) called silence, and which is naturally understood (as such). There is silence in children, but with words (latent), whereas the knowers of Brahman have it (silence) but without words That should be known as "the lonely seat" in which there is no man in the beginning, middle, or end, and through which all this (universe) is fully pervaded. The illusion of Brahmā and all other beings takes place within one twinkling (of His eye). That should be known as āsana (posture), in which one has with ease and without fatigue (uninterrupted) meditation of Brahman, that is described by the word kāla (time), that is endless bliss and that is secondless Everything else is the destroyer of happiness That is called siddhāsana (siddha-posture) in which the siddhas (psychical personages) have succeeded in realising the endless One as the support of the universe containing all the elements, etc That is called the mūlabandha, which is the Mūla (root) of all worlds, and through which the root Chitta is (bandha) bound It should be always practised by the Rājayogins

One after having known the equality of the angas (or parts of yoga) point to one and the same Brahman, should be absorbed in that equal (or uniform) Brahman, if not, there is not that equality (attained) Then like a dry tree, there is straightness (or uniformity throughout) Making one's vision full of spiritual wisdom, one should look upon the world as full of Brahman That vision is very noble It is (generally) aimed at the tip of the nose, but it should be directed towards that seat (of Brahman) wherein the cessation of seer, the seen, and sight will take place, and not towards the tip of the nose That is called prāṇāyāma (the control of breath), in which there is the control of the modifications (of mind) through the cognition of Brahman in all the states of chitta, and others. The checking of

(the conception of the reality of) the universe, is said to be expiration. The conception of "I am Brahman" is inspiration. The holding on (long) to this conception without agitation is cessation of breath. Such is the practice of the enlightened. The ignorant close their nose. That should be known as pratyāhāra, through which one sees Ātmā (even) in the objects of sense, and pleases chitta through manas. It should be practised often and often. Through seeing Brahman wherever the mind goes, the dhāraṇa of the mind is obtained. Dhāraṇā is thought of highly by the wise. By dhāraṇā is meant that state where one indulges in the good thought, "I am Brahman alone," and is without any support. This dhyāna is the giver of supreme bliss. Being first in a state of changelessness, and then thoroughly forgetting (even) that state owing to the cognition of the (true) nature of Brahman—this is called samādhi. This kind of bliss should be practised (or enjoyed) by a wise person till his cognition itself united in a moment with the state of pratyag (Ātmā). Then this King of Yogins becomes a Siddha, and is without any aid (outside himself). Then he will attain a state, inexpressible and unthinkable.

When samādhi is practised, the following obstacles arise with great force—absence of right inquiry, laziness, inclination to enjoyment, absorption (in material object), tamas, distraction, impatience, sweat, and absent-mindedness. All these obstacles should be overcome by inquirers into Brahman. Through bhāva-vṛttis (worldly thoughts), one gets into them. Through sūnya-vṛttis (void or empty thoughts), one gets into them. But through the vṛttis of Brahman, one gets fullness. Therefore one should develop fullness through this means (of Brahman). He who abandons this vṛtti of Brahman, which is very purifying and supreme—that man lives in vain like a beast. But he who understands this vṛtti (of Brahman), and having understood it makes advances in it, becomes a good and blessed person, deserving to be worshipped by the three worlds. Those who are greatly developed through the ripening (of their past karmas) attain the state of Brahman, others are simply reciters of words.

Those who are clever in arguments about Brahman, but are without the action pertaining to Brahman, and who are greatly attached to the world—those certainly are born again and again (in this world) through their ajñāna, (the former) never remain, even for half a moment—without the vṛtti of Brahman, like Brahmā and others, Sanaka,¹ etc, Śuka and others. When a cause is subject to changes, it (as an effect) must also have its cause. When the cause ceases to exist in truth, the effect perishes through right discrimination. Then that substance (or principle) which is beyond the scope of words, remains pure. After that, vṛtti jñāna arises in their purified mind, through meditation with transcendental energy, there arises a firm certitude. After reducing the visible into the invisible state, one should see everything as Brahman. The wise should ever stay in bliss with their understanding full of the essence of Chit. Thus ends the first chapter of Tejobindu.

CHAPTER II

Then the Kumāra² asked Śiva “Please explain to me the nature of Chinmātra, that is the partless non-dual essence.” The great Śiva replied “The partless non-dual essence is the visible. It is the world, it is the existence, it is the Self, it is mantra, it is action, it is spiritual wisdom, it is water. It is the earth, it is ākāś, it is the books, it is the three Vedas, it is the Brahman, it is the religious vow, it is Jīva, it is Aja (the unborn), it is Brahmā, it is Viṣṇu, it is Rudra, it is I, it is Ātmā, it is the Guru. It is the aim, it is sacrifice, it is the body, it is manas, it is chitta, it is happiness, it is vidyā, it is the undifferentiated, it is the eternal, it is the supreme, it is everything. O six-faced one, different from It there is nothing. None, none but It, It is I. It is gross, it is subtle, it is knowable, it is thou, it is the mysterious, it is the knower, it is existence, it is mother, it is father, it is brother, it is husband, it is Sūtra (Ātmā), it is Virāt

¹ Sanaka is one of the four Kumāras in the Purāṇas who refused to create, Śuka is the son of Veda Vyāsa.

² The Kumāra is the son of Śiva called Kārtikēya the six faced, symbolising the six faced Mars in our system.

It is the body, it is the head, it is the internal, it is the external, it is full, it is nectar, it is goṭra (clan), it is grha (the house), it is the preservable, it is the moon, it is the stars, it is the sun, it is the holy seat. It is forgiveness, it is patience, it is the gunas, it is the witness. It is a friend, it is a relative, it is an ally, it is the king, town, kingdom and subjects. It is Om, japa, meditation, the seat, the one worthy to be taken (in), the heart, the Jyotiṣ, Swarga (heaven) and Self ”

“ All the partless and non-dual essence should be regarded as Chinmāṭra. Chinmāṭra alone is the Absolute Consciousness, and this partless non-dual essence alone is the (real) essence. All having consciousness alone except those having changes, are Chinmāṭra. All this is Chinmāṭra. He is Chinmaya, the state of Ātmā is known as Chinmāṭra and the partless non-dual essence. The whole world is Chinmāṭra. Your state and my state are Chinmāṭra. Ākāś, earth, water, vāyu, agni, Brahmā, Vishnu, Śiva and all else that exist or do not, are Chinmāṭra. That which is the partless non-dual essence is Chinmāṭra. All the past, present, and future are Chinmāṭra. Substance and time are Chinmāṭra. Knowledge and the knowable are Chinmāṭra. The knower is Chinmāṭra. Everything is Chinmāṭra. Every speech is Chinmāṭra. Whatever else is Chinmāṭra. Asat and Sat are Chinmāṭra. The beginning and end are Chinmāṭra, that which is in the beginning and end is Chinmāṭra ever. The Guru and the disciple are Chinmāṭra. If the seer and the seen are Chinmāṭra, then they are always Chinmaya. All things wondrous are Chinmāṭra. The (gross) body is Chinmāṭra, as also the subtle and causal bodies. There is nothing beyond Chinmāṭra. I and thou are Chinmāṭra. Form and non-form are Chinmāṭra. Virtue and vice are Chinmāṭra. The body is a symbol of Chinmāṭra. Sankalpa, knowing, manṭra, and others, the gods invoked in manṭras, the gods presiding over the eight quarters, the phenomenal and the supreme Brahman are nothing but Chinmāṭra. There is nothing without Chinmāṭra. Māyā is nothing without Chinmāṭra. Pūjā (worship) is nothing without Chinmāṭra. Meditation, truth, sheaths and others, the (eight) vasus, silence, non-silence, and indifference to objects

—are nothing without Chinmātra. Everything is from Chinmātra. Whatever is seen and however seen—it is Chinmātra so far. Whatever exists and however distant, is Chinmātra. Whatever elements exist, whatever is perceived, and whatever is vedānta—all these are Chinmātra. Without Chinmātra, there is no motion, no Moksha and no goal aimed at. Everything is Chinmātra. Brahman that is the partless non-dual essence is known to be nothing but Chinmātra. Thou, O Lord, art the partless non-dual essence (stated) in the books, in me, in Thee, and in the ruler. He who thus perceives 'I' as of one homogeneity (pervading everywhere) will at once be emancipated through this spiritual wisdom. He is his own Guru with this profound spiritual wisdom. Thus ends the second chapter of Tejobindu."

CHAPTER III

The Kumāra addressed his father (again) "Please explain to me the realisation of Ātmā." To which the great Śiva said "I am of the nature of the Parabrahman. I am the supreme bliss. I am solely of the nature of divine wisdom. I am the sole supreme, the sole quiescence, the sole Chinmaya, the sole unconditioned, the sole permanent and the sole Sattva. I am the 'I' that has given up 'I'. I am one that is without anything. I am full of Chidākāś. I am the sole fourth one. I am the sole one above the fourth (state of turya). I am of the nature of (pure) consciousness. I am ever of the nature of the bliss-consciousness. I am of the nature of the non-dual. I am ever of a pure nature, solely of the nature of divine wisdom, of the nature of happiness, without fancies, desires or diseases, of the nature of bliss, without changes or differentiations, and of the nature of the eternal one essence and Chinmātra. My real nature is indescribable, of endless bliss, the bliss above Saṭ and Chiṭ and the interior of the interior. I am beyond reach of manas and speech. I am of the nature of Ātmic bliss, true bliss and one who plays with (my) Ātmā. I am Ātmā and Sadāśiva. My nature is Ātmic spiritual effulgence. I am the essence of the jyotiś of Ātmā. I am without beginning, middle, or end. I am like the

sky. I am solely Sat, Ananda, and Chit̐ which is unconditioned and pure. I am the Sachchidānanda that is eternal, enlightened and pure. I am ever of the nature of the eternal Śeṣha (serpent-time). I am ever beyond all. My nature is beyond form. My form is supreme ākāś. My nature is of the bliss of earth. I am ever without speech. My nature is the all-seat (foundation of all). I am ever replete with consciousness, without the attachment of body, without thought, without the modifications of chit̐ta, the sole essence of Chidātma, beyond the visibility of all and of the form of vision. My nature is ever full. I am ever fully contented, the all, and Brahman, and the very consciousness, I am 'I'. My nature is of the earth. I am the great Ātmā and the supreme of the supreme; I appear sometimes as different from myself, sometimes as possessing a body, sometimes as a pupil and sometimes as the basis of the worlds. I am beyond the three periods of time, am worshipped by the Vedas, am determined by the sciences and am fixed in the chit̐ta. There is nothing left out by me, neither the earth nor any other objects here. Know that there is nothing which is out of myself. I am Brahmā, a Siddha, the eternally pure, non-dual one, Brahman, without old age or death. I shine by myself, I am my own Ātmā, my own goal, enjoy myself, play in myself, have my own spiritual effulgence, am my own greatness, and am used to play in my own Ātmā, look on my own Ātmā and am in myself happily seated. I have my own Ātmā as the residue, stay in my own consciousness, and play happily in the kingdom of my own Ātmā. Sitting on the real throne of my own Ātmā, I think of nothing else but my own Ātmā. I am Chidrūpa alone, Brahman alone, Sachchidānanda, the secondless, the one replete with bliss and the sole Brahman and ever without anything, have the bliss of my own Ātmā, the unconditioned bliss, and am always Ātma-Ākāś. I alone am in the heart like Chidāditya (the consciousness-sun). I am content in my own Ātmā, have no form, or no decay, am without the number one, have the nature of an unconditioned and emancipated one, and I am subtler than ākāś, I am without the existence of beginning or end, of the nature of the

all-illuminating, the bliss greater than the great, of the sole nature of Sat, of the nature of pure Moksha, of the nature of truth and bliss, full of spiritual wisdom and bliss, of the nature of wisdom alone, and of the nature of Sachchidānanda. All this is Brahman alone. There is none other than Brahman and that is 'I'

"I am Brahman that is Sat, and bliss, and the ancient. The word 'thou' and the word 'that' are not different from me. I am of the nature of consciousness. I am alone the great Śiva. I am beyond the nature of existence. I am of the nature of happiness. As there is nothing that can witness me, I am without the state of witness. Being purely of the nature of Brahman, I am the eternal Ātmā. I alone am the Ādisesha (the primeval Śesha)¹. I alone am the Śesha. I am without name and form, of the nature of bliss, of the nature of being unperceivable by the senses, and of the nature of all beings, I have neither bondage nor salvation. I am of the form of eternal bliss. I am the primeval consciousness alone, the partless and non-dual essence, beyond reach of speech and mind, of the nature of bliss everywhere, of the nature of fullness everywhere, of the nature of earthly bliss, of the nature of contentment everywhere, the supreme nectary essence, and the one and secondless Sat, (*viz.*) Brahman. There is no doubt of it. I am of the nature of all-void. I am the one that is given out by the Vedas. I am of the nature of the emancipated and emancipation, of Nirvāṇic bliss, of truth and wisdom, of Sat alone and bliss, of the one beyond the fourth, of one without fancy, and ever of the nature of Aja (the unborn). I am without passion or faults. I am the pure, the enlightened, the eternal, the all-pervading and of the nature of the significance of Om, of the spotless, and of Chit. I am neither existing nor non-existing. I am not of the nature of anything. I am of the nature of the actionless. I am without parts. I have no semblance, no manas, no sense, no buddhi, no change, none of the three bodies, neither the waking, dreaming, or dreamless sleeping states. I am neither of the nature of the three pains nor of the three desires. I have neither

¹ Śesha, meaning remainder is the serpent representing time

kills the demon of non-Ātmā The thunderbolt 'I am Brahman' clears all the hull of not-Ātmā The wheel 'I am Brahman' destroys the asuras of not-Ātmā The mantra 'I am Brahman' will relieve all (persons) The mantra 'I am Brahman' gives spiritual wisdom and bliss There are seven crores of great mantras and there are vṛaṭas (vows) of (or yielding) hundred crores of births. Having given up all other mantras, one should ever practise this mantra He obtains at once salvation, and there is not even a particle of doubt about it. Thus ends the third chapter of the Tejobindu-Upaniṣad."

CHAPTER IV

The Kumāra asked the great Lord: "Please explain to me the nature of Jīvanmukti (embodied salvation) and videhamukti (disembodied salvation)." To which the great Śiva replied "I am Chidātmā I am Para-Ātmā I am the Nirguna, greater than the great One who will simply stay in Ātmā is called a Jīvanmukta He who realises 'I am beyond the three bodies, I am the pure consciousness and I am Brahman,' is said to be a Jīvanmukta He is said to be a Jīvanmukta, who realises 'I am of the nature of the blissful and of the supreme bliss, and I have neither body nor any other thing except the certitude "I am Brahman" only' He is said to be a Jīvanmukta who has not at all got the 'I' in myself, but who stays in Chinmātra (absolute consciousness) alone, whose interior is consciousness alone, who is only of the nature of Chinmātra, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the all-full, who has Ātmā left over in all, who is devoted to bliss, who is undifferentiated, who is all-full of the nature of consciousness, whose Ātmā is of the nature of pure consciousness, who has given up all affinities (for objects), who has unconditioned bliss, whose Ātmā is tranquil, who has got no other thought (than Itself), and who is devoid of the thought of the existence of anything He is said to be a Jīvanmukta who realises 'I have no chitta, no buddhi, no ahankāra, no sense, no body at any time, no prāṇas, no Māyā, no passion and no anger, I am the great, I have nothing of these objects or

of the world, and I have no sin, no characteristics, no eye, no manas, no ear, no nose, no tongue, no hand, no waking, no dreaming, or causal state in the least or the fourth state.' He is said to be a Jīvanmukta, who realises 'All this is not mine, I have no time, no space, no object, no thought, no snāna (bathing), no sandhyās (junction-period ceremonies), no deity, no place, no sacred places, no worship, no spiritual wisdom, no seat, no relative, no birth, no speech, no wealth, no virtue, no vice, no duty, no auspiciousness, no Jīva, not even the three worlds, no salvation, no duality, no Vedas, no mandatory rules, no proximity, no distance, no knowledge, no secrecy, no Guru, no disciple, no diminution, no excess, no Brahmā, no Viṣṇu, no Rudra, no moon, no earth, no water, no vāyu, no ākāś, no agni, no clan, no lakshya (object aimed at), no mundane existence, no meditator, no object of meditation, no manas, no cold, no heat, no thirst, no hunger, no friend, no foe, no illusion, no victory, no past, present, or future, no quarters, nothing to be said or heard in the least, nothing to be gone (or attained) to, nothing to be contemplated, enjoyed or remembered, no enjoyment, no desire, no yoga, no absorption, no garrulity, no quietude, no bondage, no love, no joy, no instant joy, no hugeness, no smallness, neither length nor shortness, neither increase nor decrease, neither adhyāropa (illusory attribution) nor apavāda (withdrawal of that conception) no oneness, no manyness, no blindness, no dullness, no skill, no flesh, no blood, no lymph, no skin, no marrow, no bone, no skin, none of the seven dhātus, no whiteness, no redness, no blueness, no heat, no gain, neither importance nor non-importance, no delusion, no perseverance, no mystery, no race, nothing to be abandoned or received, nothing to be laughed at, no policy, no religious vow, no fault, no bewailments, no happiness, neither knower nor knowledge nor the knowable, no Self, nothing belonging to you or to me, neither you nor I, and neither old age nor youth nor manhood, but I am certainly Brahman "I am certainly Brahman I am Chit, I am Chit"' He is said to be a Jīvanmukta who cognizes 'I am Brahman alone, I am Chit alone, I am the supreme' No doubt need be entertained about this, 'I am Hamsa itself, I remain of my own will, I can see

myself through myself, I reign happy in the kingdom of Ātmā and enjoy in myself the bliss of my own Ātmā' He is a Jīvan-mukṭa who is himself, the foremost and the one undaunted person who is himself the lord and rests in his own Self

"He is a Videhamukṭa who has become Brahman, whose Ātmā has attained quiescence, who is of the nature of Brāhmic bliss, who is happy, who is of a pure nature, and who is a great mouni (observer of silence). He is a Videhamukṭa who remains in Chinmātra alone without (even) thinking thus 'I am all Ātmā, the Ātmā that is equal (or the same) in all, the pure, without one, the non-dual, the all, the self only, the birthless and the deathless—I am myself the undecaying Ātmā that is the object aimed at, the sporting, the silent, the blissful, the beloved and the bondless salvation—I am Brahman alone—I am Chit alone' He is a Videhamukṭa who having abandoned the thought 'I alone am the Brahman' is filled with bliss He is a Videhamukṭa who having given up the certainty of the existence or non-existence of all objects is pure Chidānanda (the consciousness-bliss), who having abandoned (the thought) 'I am Brahman' (or) 'I am not Brahman' does not mingle his Ātmā with anything, anywhere or at any time, who is ever silent with the silence of Satya, who does nothing, who has gone beyond gunas, whose Ātmā has become the All, the great, and the purifier of the elements, who does not cognize the change of time, matter, place, himself or other differences, who does not see (the difference of) 'I,' 'thou,' 'this' or 'that,' who being of the nature of time is yet without it, whose Ātmā is void, subtle and universal, but yet without (them), whose Ātmā is divine and yet without Devas, whose Ātmā is measurable and yet without measure, whose Ātmā is without inertness and within every one, whose Ātmā is devoid of any sankalpa, who thinks always 'I am Chinmātra, I am simply Paramātmā, I am only of the nature of spiritual wisdom, I am only of the nature of Sat, I am afraid of nothing in this world,' and who is without the conception of Devas, Vedas and sciences, 'All this is consciousness, etc,' and regards all as void He is a Videhamukṭa who has realised himself to be Chetanya alone, who is remaining at ease in the pleasure-garden

of his own Ātmā, whose Ātmā is of an illimitable nature, who is without the conception of the small and the great, and who is the fourth of the fourth state and the supreme bliss. He is a Viśeṣamukta whose Ātmā is nameless and formless, who is the great spiritual wisdom of the nature of bliss, and of the nature of the state beyond turya, who is neither auspicious nor inauspicious, who has yoga as his Ātmā, whose Ātmā is associated with yoga, who is free from bondage or freedom, without gāya or non-gāya, without space, time, etc., without the witnessable and the witness, without the small or the great, and without the cognition of the universe or even the cognition of the nature of Brahman, but who finds his spiritual effulgence in his own nature, who finds bliss in himself, whose bliss is beyond the scope of words and mind, and whose thought is beyond the beyond. He is said to be a Viśeṣamukta who has gone beyond (or mastered quite) the modifications of caitya, who illumines such modifications, and whose Ātmā is without any modifications at all. In that case, he is neither embodied nor disembodied. If such a thought is entertained (even), for a moment, then he is surrounded (in thought) by all. He is a Viśeṣamukta whose external Ātmā invisible to others is the supreme bliss sitting at the highest vādanta, who drinks of the juice of the nectar of Brahman, who has the nectar of Brahman as medicine, who is devoted to the juice of the nectar of Brahman, who is immersed in that juice, who has the beneficent worship of the Brāhmic bliss, who is not satiated with the juice of the nectar of Brahman who realises Brāhmic bliss, who cognises the Śiva bliss in Brāhmic bliss, who has the effulgence of the essence of Brāhmic bliss, who has become one with it, who lives in the household of Brāhmic bliss, has mounted the car of Brāhmic bliss, who has an imponderable Chit being one with it, who is supporting (all), being full of it, who associates with me having it, who stays in Ātmā having that bliss and who thinks: 'All this is of the nature of Ātmā, there is nothing else beside Ātmā, all is Ātmā. I am Ātmā, the great Ātmā, the supreme Ātmā, and Ātmā of the form of bliss.' He who thinks: 'My nature is full, I am the great Ātmā, I am the all-contented and the permanent Ātmā. I am

the Ātmā pervading the heart of all, which is not stained by anything, but which has no Ātmā, I am the Ātmā whose nature is changeless, I am the quiescent Ātmā, and I am the many Ātmā' He who does not think this is Jīvātmā and that is Paramātmā, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the emancipated and the non-emancipated, but without emancipation or bondage, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the dual and the non-dual one, but without duality and non-duality, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the All and the non-All, but without them, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the happiness arising from objects obtained and enjoyed, but without it, and who is devoid of any sankalpa—such a man is a Videhamukta. He whose Ātmā is partless, stainless, enlightened, Puruṣa, without bliss, etc, of the nature of nectar, of the nature of the three periods of time, but without them, whose Ātmā is entire and non-measurable, being subject to proof though without proof, whose Ātmā is the eternal and the witness, but without eternality and witness, whose Ātmā is of the nature of the secondless, who is the self-shining one without a second, whose Ātmā cannot be measured by vidyā and avidyā but without them, whose Ātmā is without conditionedness or unconditionedness, who is without this or the higher worlds, whose Ātmā is without the six things beginning with sama, who is without the qualifications of the aspirant after salvation, whose Ātmā is without gross, subtle, causal, and the fourth bodies, and without the anna, prāṇa, manas, and vijñāna sheaths, whose Ātmā is of the nature of ānanda (bliss) sheath, but without five sheaths, whose Ātmā is of the nature of nirvikalpa, is devoid of sankalpa, without the characteristics of the visible or the audible, and of the nature of void, owing to unceasing samādhi, who is without beginning, middle, or end, whose Ātmā is devoid of the word Prajñāna, who is without the idea 'I am Brahman,' whose Ātmā is devoid (of the thought) of 'thou art', who is without the thought 'this is Ātmā', whose Ātmā is devoid of that which is described by Om, who is above the reach of any speech or the three states, and is the indestructible and the Chidātmā, whose Ātmā is not the one which can be known by Ātmā and whose Ātmā has neither

light nor darkness. Such a personage is a Videhamukta. Look only upon Ātmā, know It as your own. Enjoy your Ātmā yourself, and stay in peace. O six-faced one, be content in your own Ātmā, be wandering in your own Ātmā, and be enjoying your own Ātmā. Then you will attain Videhamukti.”

CHAPTER V

The Sage named Nidāgha addressed the venerable Rbhu: “O Lord please explain to me the discrimination of Ātmā from non-Ātmā.” The Sage replied thus.

“The furthest limit of all vāk (speech) is Brahman, the furthest limit to all thoughts is the Guru¹. That which is of the nature of all causes and effects but yet without them, that which is without sankalpa, of the nature of all bliss and the auspicious, that which is the great one of the nature of bliss, that which illuminates all luminaries and that which is full of the bliss of nāda (spiritual sound), without any enjoyment and contemplation and beyond nādas and kalās (parts)—that is Ātmā, that is the ‘I’, the indestructible. Being devoid of all the difference of Ātmā and non-Ātmā, of heterogeneity and homogeneity, and of quiescence and non-quiescence—that is the one Jyotiṣ at the end of nāda. Being remote from the conception of Mahā-vakyārtha (i. e., the meaning of Mahā-vākyas) as well of ‘I am Brahman,’ being devoid of or without the conception of the word and the meaning, and being devoid of the conception of the destructible and indestructible—that is the one Jyotiṣ at the end of nāda. Being without the conception ‘I am the partless non-dual essence’ or ‘I am the blissful,’ and being of the nature of the one beyond all—that is one Jyotiṣ at the end of nāda. He who is devoid of the significance of Ātmā (vāc, motion) and devoid of Sachchidananda—he is alone Ātmā, the eternal. He who is undefinable and unreachable by the words of the Vedas, who has neither externals nor internals, and whose symbol is either the universe or Brahman—he is undoubtedly Ātmā. He who has no body, nor

¹ Herein is given the hint as to the difference of functions between an Ishta-ḍeṛaṭā and a Guru.

is a Jīva made up of the elements and their compounds, who has neither form nor name, neither the enjoyable nor the enjoyer, neither Sat nor asaṭ, neither preservation nor regeneration, neither guṇa nor non-guṇa—that is undoubtedly my Ātmā. He who has neither the described nor description, neither sṛavana nor manana, neither Guru nor disciple, neither the world of the Devas nor the Devas nor Asuras, neither duty nor non-duty, neither the immaculate nor non-immaculate, neither time nor non-time, neither certainty nor doubt, neither manṭra nor non-manṭra, neither science nor non-science, neither the seer nor the sight which is subtle, nor the nectar of time—that is Ātmā. Rest assured that not-Ātmā is a misnomer. There is no manas as not-Ātmā. There is no world as not-Ātmā. Owing to the absence of all sankalpas and to the giving up of all actions, Brahman alone remains, and there is no not-Ātmā. Being devoid of the three bodies, the three periods of time, the three guṇas of Jīva, the three pains and the three worlds, and following the saying 'All is Brahman,' know that there is nothing to be known through the absence of chitta, there is no old age through the absence of body, no motion through the absence of legs, no action through the absence of hands, no death through the absence of creatures, no happiness through the absence of buddhi, no virtue, no purity, no fear, no repetition of mantras, no Guru nor disciple. There is no second in the absence of one. Where there is not the second, there is not the first. Where there is truth alone, there is no non-truth possible, where there is non-truth alone, there is no truth possible. If you regard a thing auspicious as inauspicious, then auspiciousness is desired (as separate) from inauspiciousness. If you regard fear as non-fear, then fear will arise out of non-fear. If bondage should become emancipation, then in the absence of bondage will be no emancipation. If both should imply death, then in the absence of birth, there is no death. If 'thou' should imply 'I,' then in the absence of 'thou' there is no 'I.' If 'this' should be 'that,' 'this' does not exist in the absence of 'that'. If being should imply non-being, then non-being will imply being. If an effect implies a cause, then in the absence

of effect, there is no cause. If duality implies non-duality, then in the absence of duality, there is no non-duality. If there should be the seen, then there is the eye (or sight), in the absence of the seen, there is no eye. In the absence of the interior, there is no exterior. If there should be fullness, then non-fullness is possible. Therefore (all) this exists nowhere. Neither you nor I, nor this nor these exist. There exists no (object of) comparison in the true one. There is no simile in the unborn. There is (in it) no mind to think. I am the supreme Brahman. This world is Brahman only. Thou and I are Brahman only. I am Chinmātra simply, and there is no not-Ātmā. Rest assured of it. This universe is not (really at all). This universe is not (really) at all. It was nowhere produced and stays nowhere. Some say that chitta is the universe. Not at all. It exists not. Neither the universe nor chitta nor ahaṅkāra nor Jīva exists (really). Neither the creation of Māyā nor Māyā itself exists (really). Fear does not (really) exist. Actor, action, hearing, thinking, the two samādhis, the measurer, the measure, ajñāna and aviveka—none of these exists (truly) anywhere. Therefore the four moving¹ considerations and the three kinds of relationship exist not. There is no Gaṅgā, no Gayā, no Setu (bridge), no elements or anything else, no earth, water, fire, vāyu, and ākāś anywhere, no Devas, no guardians of the four quarters, no Vedas, no Guru, no distance, no proximity, no time, no middle, no non-duality, no truth, no untruth, no bondage, no emancipation, no Sat, no asat, no happiness, etc., no class, no motion, no caste, and no worldly business. All is Brahman only and nothing else—all is Brahman only and nothing else. There exists then nothing (or statement) as that 'consciousness alone is', there is (then) no saying such as 'Chit is I'. The statement 'I am Brahman' does not exist (then), nor does exist (then) the statement. 'I am the eternally pure'. Whatever is uttered by the mouth, whatever is thought by manas, whatever is determined by buddhi, whatever is cognized by chitta—all these do not exist. There is no Yogin or

¹ The four moving considerations (of vedānta) are subject (Brahman), object, relationship, and the qualified person

yoga then All are and are not Neither day nor night, neither bathing nor contemplating, neither delusion nor non-delusion—all these do not exist then Know that is no not-Ātmā

“The Vēḍas, Sciences, Purāṇas, effect and cause, Īśvara and the world and the elements and mankind—all these are unreal. There is no doubt of it Bondage, salvation, happiness, relatives, meditation, chitta, the Devas, the demons, the secondary and the primary, the high and the low—all these are unreal. There is no doubt of it Whatever is uttered by the mouth, whatever is willed by sankalpa, whatever is thought by manas—all these are unreal. Whatever is determined by the buddhi, whatever is cognized by chitta, whatever is discussed by the religious books, whatever is seen by the eye and heard by the ears, and whatever exists as Sat, as also the ear, the eye, and the limbs—all these are unreal Whatever is described as such and such, whatever is thought as so-and-so, all the existing thoughts such as ‘thou art I’, ‘that is this,’ and ‘He is I,’ and whatever happens in moksha, as also all sankalpas, delusion, illusory attribution, mysteries and all the diversities of enjoyment and sin—all these do not exist So is also not-Ātmā. Mine and thine, my and thy, for me and for thee, by me and by thee—all these are unreal (The statement) that Vishnu is the preserver, Brahmā is the creator, Rudra is the destroyer—know that these undoubtedly are false Bathing, utterings of mantras, japas (religious austerities) homa (sacrifice), study of the Vedas, worship of the Devas, mantra, tantra, association with the good, the unfolding of the faults of gunas, the working of the internal organ, the result of avidyā, and the many crores of mundane eggs—all these are unreal Whatever is spoken of as true according to the verdict of all teachers, whatever is seen in this world and whatever exists—all these are unreal Whatever is uttered by words, whatever is ascertained, spoken, enjoyed, given or done by anyone, whatever action is done, good or bad, whatever is done as truth—know all these to be unreal Thou alone art the transcendental Ātmā and the supreme Guru of the form of ākāśa, which is devoid of fitness (for it) and of the nature of all creatures

Thou art Brahman ; thou art time , and thou art Brahman, that is ever and imponderable Thou art everywhere, of all forms, and full of consciousness Thou art the truth Thou art one that has mastered the siddhis, and thou art the ancient, the emancipated, emancipation, the nectar of bliss, the God, the quiescent, the diseaseless, Brahman the full, and greater than the great. Thou art impartial, Saṭ and the ancient knowledge, recognised by the words ' Truth, etc ' Thou art devoid of all parts. Thou art the ever-existing—thou appearest as Brahmā, Rudra, Indra, etc—thou art above the illusion of the universe—thou shinest in all elements—thou art without saṅkalpa in all—thou art known by means of the underlying meaning of all scriptures; thou art ever content and ever happily seated (in thyself); thou art without motion etc. In all things, thou art without any characteristics; in all things thou art contemplated by Vishnu and other Devas at all times, thou hast the nature of Chit, thou art Chinmātrā unchecked, thou stayest in Ātmā itself, thou art void of everything and without guṇas, thou art bliss, the great, the one secondless, the state of Sat and asaṭ, the knower, the known, the seer, the nature of Sachchidānanda, the lord of Devas, the all-pervading, the deathless, the moving, the motionless, the all and the non-all with quiescence and non-quiescence, Sat alone, Saṭ commonly (found in all), of the form of Nitya-Siddha (the unconditioned developed one), and yet devoid of all siddhis There is not an atom which thou dost not penetrate, but yet thou art without it Thou art devoid of existence and non-existence as also the aim and object aimed at Thou art changeless, decayless, beyond all nādas, without kāla or kṛtsna (divisions of time) and without Brahmā, Vishnu, and Śiva Thou lookest into the nature of each and art above the nature of each. Thou art immersed in the bliss of Self Thou art the monarch of the kingdom of Self, and yet without the conception of Self Thou art of the nature of fullness and incompleteness There is nothing that thou seest which is not in thyself Thou dost not stir out of thy nature Thou actest according to the nature of each Thou art nothing but the nature of each. Have no doubt ' thou art I '.

“This universe and everything in it, whether the seer or the seen, resembles the horns of a hare (or are illusory) Earth, water, agni, vāyu, ākāś, manas, buddhi, ahankāra, tejas, the worlds and the sphere of the universe, destruction, birth, truth, virtue, vice, gain, desires, passion, anger, greed, the object of meditation, wisdom, guru, disciple, limitation, the beginning and end, auspiciousness, the past, present, and future, the aim and the object of aim, mental restraint, inquiry, contentment, enjoyer, enjoyment, etc., the eight parts of yoga, yama, etc., the going and coming (of life), the beginning, middle and end, that which can be taken and rejected, Hari, Śiva, the organs, manas, the three states, the twenty-four tattvas, the four means, one of the same class or different classes, Bhūh and other worlds, all the castes and orders of life with the rules laid down for each, mantras and tantras, science and nescience, all the Vedas, the inert and the non-inert, bondage and salvation, spiritual wisdom and non-wisdom, the enlightened and the non-enlightened, duality and non-duality, the conclusion of all Vedāntas and Śāstras, the theory of the existence of all souls and that of one soul only, whatever is thought by chitta, whatever is willed by sankalpa, whatever is determined by buddhi, whatever one hears and sees, whatever the guru instructs, whatever is sensed by all the organs, whatever is discussed in mīmāṃsā whatever is ascertained by nyāya (philosophy) and by the great ones who have reached the other side of the Vedas, the saying ‘Śiva destroys the world, Vishnu protects it, and Brahmā creates it’, whatever is found in the purāṇas, whatever is ascertained by the Vedas, and is the signification of all the Vedas—all these resemble the horns of a hare. The conception ‘I am the body’ is spoken of as the internal organ, the conception ‘I am the body’ is spoken of as the great mundane existence, the conception ‘I am the body’ constitutes the whole universe. The conception ‘I am the body’ is spoken of as the knot of the heart, as non-wisdom, as the state of asaṁ, as nescience, as the dual, as the true Jīva and as with parts, is certainly the great sin, and is the disease generated by the fault of thirst after desires. That

which is sankalpa, the three pains, passion, anger, bondage, all the miseries, all the faults and the various forms of time—know these to be the result of manas. Manas alone is the whole world, the ever-deluding, the mundane existence, the three worlds, the great pains, the old age and others, death and the great sin, the sankalpa, the Jīva, the chitta, the ahankāra, the bondage, the internal organ and earth, water, agni, vāyū, and ākāś. Sound, touch, form, taste, and odour, the five sheaths, the waking, the dreaming, and dreamless sleeping states, the guardians of the eight quarters, Vasus, Rudras, Ādityas, the seen, the inert, the pairs and non-wisdom—all these are the products of manas. Rest assured that there is no reality in all that is sankalpa. The whole world, the guru, disciple, etc., do not exist, yea, do not exist. Thus ends the fifth chapter of this Upanishad.”

CHAPTER VI

Rbhu continued again “Know everything as Sachchidmāya (full of Sat and consciousness). It pervades everything. Sachchidānanda is non-dual, decayless, alone and other than all. It is ‘I’. It alone is ākāś and ‘thou’. It is I. There is (in it) no manas, no buddhi, no ahankāra, no chitta, or the collection of these—neither ‘thou’ nor I, nor anything else nor everything. Brahman alone is. Sentence, words, Vedas, letters, beginning, middle, or end, truth, law, pleasure, pain, existence, māyā, prakṛti, body, face, nose, tongue, palate, teeth, lip, forehead, expiration and inspiration, sweat, bone, blood, urine, distance, proximity, limb, belly, crown, the movement of hands and feet, Śāstras, command, the knower, the known, and the knowledge, the waking, dreaming and dreamless sleeping and the fourth state—all these do not belong to me. Everything is Sachchidmāya interwoven. No attributes pertaining to body, elements and spirit, no root, no vision, no Tājasa, no Prājña, no Virāt, no Sūtrātma, no Īśvara, and no going or coming, neither gain nor loss, neither the acceptable nor the rejectable, nor the censurable, neither the pure nor the impure, neither the stout nor the lean, no sorrow, time, space, speech,

all, fear, duality, tree, grass or mountain, no meditation, no siddhi of yoga, no Brāhmana, Kṣhāṭtriya or Vaisya, no bird or beast, or limb, no greed, delusion, pride, malice, passion, anger or others, no woman, Sūdra, castes or others, nothing that is eatable or enjoyable, no increase or decrease, no belief in the Vedas, no speech, no worldliness or unworldliness, no transaction, no folly, no measure or measured, no enjoyment or enjoyed, no friends, son, etc., father, mother, or sister, no birth or death, no growth, body or 'I', no emptiness or fullness, no internal organs or mundane existence, no night, no day, no Brahmanā, Viṣṇu, or Śiva, no week, fortnight, month, or year, no unsteadiness, no Brahmaloḥa, Vāikuṇṭha, Kailāsa and others, no Svaiga, Indra, Agniloka, Agni, Yamaloka, Yama, vāyuloka, guardians of the world, three worlds—Bhūh, Bhuvah, Svah, Pātāla or surface of earth, no science, nescience, māyā, prakṛti, inertness, permanency, transience, destruction, movement, running, object of meditation, bathing, maṇṭra or object, no adorable object, anointment or sipping with water, no flower, fruit, sandal, light waved before god, praise, prostrations or circumambulation, no entreaty, conception of separateness even, oblation of food, offered food, sacrifice, actions, abuse, praise, Gāyatrī and sandhi (period of junction, such as twilight, etc.), no mental state, calamity, evil desire, bad soul, cāṇḍāla (low caste person) pulkasa, unbearableness, unspeakableness, kuṇḍā (hunter), kaṭava (demon), partiality, partisanship, ornament, chief, or pride, no manyness, no oneness, durability, triad, tetrad, greatness, smallness, fullness, or delusion, no kaṭava, Benaies, ṭapas, clan, family, sūtra, greatness, poverty, girl, old woman or widow, no pollution, birth, introvision or illusion, no sacred sentences, identity, or the siddhis, anīmā, etc

“ Everything being consciousness alone, there is no fault in anything. Everything being of the nature of Sat alone, is Sachchidānanda only. Brahman alone is everything and there is nothing else. So 'That' is 'I', 'That' is 'I', 'That' alone is 'I'. 'That' alone is 'I'. 'That' alone is 'I'. The eternal Brahman alone is 'I'. I am Brahman alone without being subject to mundane existence. I am Brahman alone

without any manas, any buddhi, organs or body I am Brahman alone not perceivable. I am Brahman alone and not Jīva I am Brahman alone and not liable to change I am Brahman alone and not inert. I am Brahman alone and have no death I am Brahman alone and have no prāṇas I am Brahman alone and greater than the great This is Brahman Great is Brahman. Truth is Brahman It is all-pervading Time is Brahman. Kāla is Brahman. Happiness is Brahman. It is self-shining One is Brahman. Two is Brahman Delusion is Brahman Sāma and others are Brahman Badness is Brahman Goodness is Brahman It is of the form of restraint, quiescence, the all-pervading and the all-powerful The Loka (world) is Brahman Guru is Brahman Disciple is Brahman It is Sadāsiva (That which) is before is Brahman. (That which will be) hereafter is Brahman Purity is Brahman Auspiciousness and inauspiciousness are Brahman Jīva always is Brahman I am Sachchīdānanda All are of the nature of Brahman The universe is said to be of the nature of Brahman. Brahman is itself There is no doubt of it. There is nothing out of itself The letter Om of the form of consciousness is Brahman alone. Everything is itself I alone am the whole universe and the highest seat, have crossed the guṇas and am greater than the great, the supreme Brahman, Guru of Gurus, the support of all and the bliss of bliss There is no universe besides Ātmā The universe is of the nature of Ātmā There is nowhere (or no place) without Ātmā There is not even grass different from Ātmā There is not husk different from Brahman The whole universe is of the nature of Ātmā All this is of the nature of Brahman. Asaṭ is not of the nature of Brahman There is not a grass different from Brahman. There is not a seat different from Brahman; there is not a Guru different from Brahman, there is not a body different from Brahman There is nothing different from Brahman like I-ness or you-ness Whatever is seen in this world, whatever is spoken of by the people, whatever is enjoyed everywhere—all these are asaṭ (unreal) only The differences arising from the actor, action, qualities, likes, taste and gender—all these arise from asaṭ and are (but) pleasurable

The differences arising from time, objects, actions, success or defeat and whatever else—all these are simply *asaṭ*. The internal organ is *asaṭ*. The organs are *asaṭ*. All the *prāṇas*, the collections of all these, the five sheaths, the five deities, the six changes, the six enemies, the six seasons, and the six tastes, are *asaṭ*. I am *Sachchidānanda*. The universe is rootless. I am *Ātmā* alone, *Chit* and *Ānanda*. The scenes of mundane existence are not different. I am the Truth of the nature of *Ānanda* and of the nature of the imponderable *Chit*. All this is of the nature of *jñāna*.

“I am the secondless, having *jñāna* and bliss. I am of the nature of an illuminator of all things. I am of the nature of all non-being. I alone shine always. Therefore how can I with such a nature become *asaṭ*? That which is called ‘thou’ is the great Brahman of the nature of the bliss of consciousness and of the nature of *chit* having *chidākāś* and *chit* alone as the great bliss. *Ātmā* alone is ‘I’. *Asat* is not ‘I’. I am *Kūṭastha*, the great guru and *Sachchidānanda* alone. I am this born universe. No time, no universe, no *māyā*, no *prakṛti* (in me). I alone am the *Harī*. Personally, I alone am the *Sadāsiva*. I am of the nature of pure consciousness. I am the enjoyer of pure *satṭva*. I am the only essence full of *chit*. Everything is Brahman and Brahman alone. Everything is Brahman and is *chit* alone. I am of the nature of the all-latent and the all-witness. I am the supreme *Ātmā*, the supreme *Jyotiś*, the supreme wealth, the supreme goal, the essence of all *vedāntas*, the subject discussed in all the *Śāstras*, the nature of yogic bliss, the ocean of the chief bliss, the brightness of all wisdom, of the nature of chief wisdom, the brightness of the fourth state and the non-fourth but devoid of them, the indestructible *chit*, truth, *Vāsudeva*, the birthless, and the deathless *Brahmā*, *Chidākāś*, the unconditioned, the stainless, the immaculate, the emancipated, the utterly emancipated, the soulless, the formless and of the nature of the non-created universe.

“The universe which is assumed as truth and non-truth does not really exist. Brahman is of the nature of eternal bliss and

is even by itself It is endless, decayless, quiescent and of one nature only. If anything is other than myself, then it is as unreal as the mirage in an oasis If one should be afraid of the son of a barren woman, or if a powerful elephant be killed by means of the horns of a hare, then the world (really is) If one (person) can quench his thirst by drinking the waters of the mirage, or if one should be killed by the horns of a man, then the universe really is The universe exists always in the true Gandharva city (merely unreal) When the blueness of the sky really exists in it, then the universe really is When the silver in mother-of-pearl can be used in making an ornament, when a man is bitten by (the conception of) a snake in a rope, when the flaming fire is quenched by means of a golden arrow, when milky food is obtained in the (barren) forest of Vindhya (mountains), when cooking can take place by means of the fuel of (wet) plantain trees, when a female (baby) just born begins to cook, when curds resume the state of milk, or when the milk (milked) goes back through the teats of a cow, then will the universe really be When the dust of the earth shall be produced in the ocean, when the maddened elephant is tied by means of the hair of a tortoise, when (mountain) Meru is shaken by the thread in the stalk of a lotus, when the ocean is bound by its rows of tides, when the fire flames downwards, when flame shall become (really) cold, when the lotus shall grow out of flaming fire, when Indranila (sapphire) arises in the great mountains, when Meru comes and sits in the lotus-eye, when a mountain can become the offspring of a black bee, when Meru shall shake, when a lion is killed by a gnat, when the three worlds can be found in the space of the hollow of an atom, when the fire which burns a straw shall last for a long time, when the objects seen in a dream shall come in the waking state, when the current of a river shall stand still (of itself), when the delivery of a barren woman shall be fruitful, when the crow shall walk like a swan, when the mule shall fight with a lion, when a great ass shall walk like an elephant, when the full moon shall become a sun, when Rāhu (one of the nodes) shall abandon the sun and the moon, when a good crop shall arise out of the

waste (burnt) seeds, when the poor shall enjoy the happiness of the rich, when the lions shall be conquered by the bravery of dogs, when the heart of Jñānīs is known by fools, when the ocean is drunk by the dogs without any remainder, when the pure ākāś shall fall upon men, when heaven shall fall on the earth, when the flower in the sky shall emit fragrance, when a forest appearing in pure ākāś shall move, and when reflection shall arise in a glass simply (without mercury or anything else in its back), then the world really is. There is no universe in the womb of Aja (the unborn Brahman)—there is no universe in the womb of Ātmā. Duality and non-duality, which are but the results of differentiation, are really not. All this is the result of māyā. Therefore, there should be Brahma-Bhāvanā. If misery should arise from the conception of 'I am the body,' then it is certain 'I am Brahman.' The knot of the heart is the wheel of Brahman, which cuts asunder the knot of existence. When doubt arises in one, he should have faith in Brahman. That non-dual Brahman, which is eternal and of the form of unconditioned bliss, is the guard of Ātmā against the chief of the form of not-Ātmā. Through instances like the above is established the nature of Brahman. Brahman alone is the all-abode. Abandon the name even of the universe. Knowing for certain 'I am Brahman,' give up the 'I'. Everything disappears as the flower from the hands of a sleeping person. There is neither body nor karma. Everything is Brahman alone. There are neither objects, nor actions, nor the four states. Everything which has the three characteristics of vijñāna is Brahman alone. Abandoning all action, contemplate 'I am Brahman,' 'I am Brahman'. There is no doubt of this. I am Brahman of the nature of chit. I am of the nature of Sachchidananda.

"This great science of Śāṅkara should never be explained to any ordinary person, to an atheist or to a faithless, ill-behaved or evil-minded person. It should be, after due examination, given to the high-souled ones whose minds are purified with devotion to their gurus. It should be taught for a year and a half. Leaving off thoroughly and entirely the practice

recommended by the (other) Upanishads, one should study the Tejobindu-Upanishad always with delight. By once studying it, he becomes one with Brahman. Thus ends the sixth chapter. Thus ends the Upanishad ”

BRAHMOPANISHAD¹

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

[This Upanishad is intended to give a complete and clear idea of the nature of Ātmā, that has four avasthās (states of consciousness) and four seats, for the better consummation of the nirguna dhyāna]

Om Śaunaka Mahāsāla questioned the holy Sage Pippalāda of the Angīras gotra thus "In this beautiful Brahmapura of body, the fit residence of divine beings, how are (the deities of) vāk, etc., located? How do they function? To whom belongs this power? He to whom this power belongs, what is He?"

Pippalāda then having deeply considered, imparted to him the Brahmapurāṇa (divine wisdom), that most excellent of all things "It is prāṇa (i.e.,) Ātmā. It is Ātmā that exercises this power. It is the life of all Devas. It is their death and (their) life. Brahman that shines pure, nishkala, resplendent, and all-pervading, in this divine Brahmapura (of body), rules (all). The Jīva (identifying himself with) the indriyas, rules them like a spider. The spider throws out from a single thread out of his body a whole web, and draws it into himself by that same thread, so prāṇa, whenever it goes, draws after it the objects of its creation (vāk, etc.) During sushupti, (the prāṇa) goes to its seat (Brahman) through the nāḍīs of which is the devatā, like an eagle, that making air as the means of communication, reaches his abode. They say, as devadattā, though beaten (during sushupti) by a stick, etc., does not move, so also the actor does not suffer or enjoy for the

¹ In this Upanishad, the Southern Indian edition begins later on but the other portions also are given as being fuller

merits or demerits of religious actions. Just as a child obtains happiness without desiring for it (in play), so also devadatta obtains happiness in sushupti. He certainly knows, (being) Param-Jyotis, and the person desiring jyotis, enjoys bliss in the contemplation of jyotis. Then he comes back to the dream-plane by the same way, like a caterpillar. It remaining on a blade of grass, first puts forward its foot on another blade in front, conveys its body to it, and having got a firm hold of it, then only leaves the former and not before. So this is the jāgrata state. As this (devadatta) bears at the same time eight skulls, so this jāgrata, the source of Devas and Vedas, clings to a man like the breasts in a woman. During the jāgrata avasthā, merit and demerit are postulated of this Deva (power), he is capable of great expansion and is the inner mover. He is khaga (bird), karkata (crab), pushkara (ākās'), prāṇa, pain, parāpara, Ātmā and Brahman. This deity causes to know. He who knows thus obtains Brahman, the supreme, the support of all things, and the Kshetrajña. He obtains Brahman, the supreme, support of all things, and the Kshetrajña.

¹ "The Pursuha has four seats—navel, heart, neck, and head. There Brahman with the four feet specially shines. Those feet are jāgrata, svapna, sushupti, and turya. In jāgrata he is Brahmā, in svapna Vishnu, in sushupti Rudra, and in turya the supreme Akshara. He is Āditya, Vishṇu, Īśvara, Puruṣa, prāṇa, jīva, agni, the resplendent. The Para-Brahman shines in the midst of these. He is without manas, ear, hands, feet, and light. There the worlds are no worlds, Devas no Devas, Vedas no Vedas, sacrifices no sacrifices, mother no mother, father no father, daughter-in-law no daughter-in-law, chandāla no chandāla, paulkasa no paulkasa, śramaṇa no śramaṇa, hermits no hermits, so one only Brahman shines as different. In the Hrdayākās (ākās' in the heart) is the Chidākās. That is Brahman. It is extremely subtle. The Hrdayākās can be known. This moves in it. In Brahman, everything is strung. Those who thus know the Lord know everything. In him the Devas, the worlds, the Pitṛs and the Rṣhis do not rule. He who has awakened knows everything.

¹ The South Indian Edition begins here.

All the Devas are in the heart, in the heart are all the prānas in the heart are prāna, jyotiṣ and that three-plied holy thread In the heart in Chaitanya, it (prāna) is ¹ Put on the yajñopavīta (holy thread), the supreme, the holy, which came into existence along with the Prajāpati, which gives long life and which is very excellent, let this give you strength and tejas. The wise man having shaved his head completely, should throw away the external thread He should wear, as the holy thread, the supreme and indestructible Brahman It is called sūtra, because sūchanāt (indicating) (that the Ātmā is in the heart). Sūtra means the supreme abode He who knows that sūtra is a vipra (brāhmana), he has crossed the ocean of the Vedas On that sūtra (thread), everything is strung, like the beads on the thread The yogin, well versed in yoga and having a clear perception of Truth, should wear the thread Practising the noble yoga, the wise man should abandon the external thread He who wears the sūtra as Brahman, he is an intelligent being By wearing the sūtra, he is not polluted They whose sūtra is within, whose yajñopavīta is jñāna—they only know the sūtra, and, they only wear the yajñopavīta in this world Those whose tuft of hair is jñāna, who are firmly grounded in jñāna and whose yajñopavīta is jñāna, consider jñāna only as supreme Jñāna is holy and excellent He whose śikhā (tuft of hair) is jñāna like the śikhā (flame of agni)—he, the wise one, only wears a true śikhā, others wear a mere tuft of hair Those brāhmanas and others who perform the ceremonies prescribed in the Vedas—they wear this thread only as a symbol of their ceremonies Those who know the Vedas say that he only is a true brāhmana who wears the śikhā of jñāna and whose yajñopavīta is the same (jñāna). This yajñopavīta (Yajña means Vishnu or sacrifice and Upavīta is that which surrounds, hence that which surrounds Vishnu) is supreme and is the supreme refuge He who wears that really knows—he only wears the sūtra, he is Yajña (Vishnu) and he only knows Yajña (Vishnu). One God hidden in all things, pervades all things and is the Inner Life of all things. He awards the fruits

¹ This sūtra is repeated whenever the holy thread is newly worn

of karma, he lives in all things, he sees all things without any extraneous help, he is the soul of all, there is nothing like him, and he is without any gunas (being secondless). He is the great wise one. He is the one doer among the many actionless objects. He is always making one thing appear as several (by māyā). Those wise men who see him in buddhi, they only obtain eternal peace. Having made Ātmā as the (upper) arani (attritional piece of wood) and Pranava the lower arani, by constant practice of dhyāna one should see the concealed deity. As the oil in the sesamum seed, as the ghee in the curds, as the water in the rivers, and as the fire in the arani, so they who practise truth and austerities see Him in the buddhi. As the spider throws out and draws into itself the threads, so the jīva goes and returns during the jāgrata and the svapna states. The heart is in the form of a closed lotus-flower, with its head hanging down, it has a hole in the top. Know it to be the great abode of All. Know that during jāgrata it (jīva) dwells in the eye, and during svapna in the throat, during sushupti, it is in the heart and during turya in the head. ¹(Because buddhi unites) the Pratyagātmā with the Paramātmā, the worship of sandhyā (union) arose. So we should perform sandhyāvandana (rites). The sandhyāvandana performed by dhyāna requires no water. It gives no trouble to the body or the speech. That which unites all things is the sandhyā of the one-staffed (sannyāsins). Knowing That from which speech and mind turn back without being able to obtain it and That which is the bliss of jīva, the wise one is freed. The secret of Brahmadevyā is to reveal the real nature of the Ātmā, that is all-pervading, that is like ghee in the milk, that is the source of ātmadevyā and tapas and to show that everything is in essence one.

“ So ends the Brahmopaniṣad ”

¹ The five sentences from here relating to Sandhyā are not to be found in the South Indian Edition

VAJRASUCHI¹-UPANISHAD

OF

SĀMAVEDA

I now proceed to declare the vajrasūchi—the weapon that is the destroyer of ignorance—which condemns the ignorant and praises the man of divine vision

There are four castes—the brāhmaṇa, the kṣhātriya, the vaiśya, and the sūdra. Even the smṛtis declare in accordance with the words of the vedas that the brāhmaṇa alone is the most important of them

Then this remains to be examined. What is meant by the brāhmaṇa? Is it a jīva? Is it a body? Is it a class? Is it jñāna? Is it karma? Or is it a doer of dharma?

To begin with is jīva the brāhmaṇa? No. Since the jīva is the same in the many past and future bodies (of all persons), and since the jīva is the same in all of the many bodies obtained through the force of karma, therefore jīva is not the brāhmaṇa.

Then is the body the brāhmaṇa? No. Since the body, as it is made up of the five elements, is the same for all people down to chandūlas,² etc., since old age and death, dharma and adharma are found to be common to them all, since there is no absolute distinction that the brāhmanas are white-coloured, the kṣhatriyas red, the vaiśyas yellow, and the sūdras dark, and since in burning the corpse of his father, etc., the stain of the murder of a brāhmaṇa, etc., will accrue to the son, etc., therefore the body is not the brāhmaṇa.

¹ Lit., the diamond needle. Upanishad

² The lowest class of persons among the Hindus

Then is a class the brāhmaṇa? No Since many great Ṛshis have sprung from other castes and orders of creation —Rshya-sṛnga was born of deer, Kausika, of Kusa grass; Jāmbuka of a jackal; Vālmika of valmika (an ant-hill), Vyāsa of a fisherman's daughter, Gautama, of the posteriors of a hare, Vasiṣṭha of Ūrvaśī¹; and Agastya of a water-pot, thus have we heard Of these, many Ṛshis outside the caste even have stood first among the teachers of divine Wisdom, therefore a class is not the brāhmaṇa

Is jñāna the brāhmaṇa? No Since there were many kṣatriyas and others well versed in the cognition of divine Truth, therefore jñāna is not the brāhmaṇa

Then is karma the brāhmaṇa? No Since the prārab-dha², sañcīta³, and āgami⁴ karmas are the same for all beings, and since all people perform their actions as impelled by karma, therefore karma is not the brāhmaṇa

Then is a doer of dharma (virtuous actions) the brāhmaṇa? No Since there are many kṣatriyas, etc, who are givers of gold, therefore a doer of virtuous actions is not the brāhmaṇa

Who indeed then is brāhmaṇa? Whoever he may be, he who has directly realised his Ātmā and who is directly cognizant, like the myrobalan in his palm, of his Ātmā that is without a second, that is devoid of class and actions, that is free from the faults of the six stains⁵ and the six changes, 'that is of the nature of truth, knowledge, bliss, and eternity, that is without any change in itself, that is the substratum of all the kalpas, that exists penetrating all things that pervades everything within and without as ākāś, that is of nature of undivided bliss, that cannot be reasoned about and that is known only by direct cognition He who by the reason of having obtained his wishes is devoid of the faults of thirst after worldly objects and passions, who is the possessor of the qualifications beginning

¹ One of the celestial nymphs dancing in the court of Indra

² The karmic affinities generated by us in our former lives, the fruit of which is being enjoyed in our present life

³ The karmic affinities generated by us in our former lives and collected together to be enjoyed in our future lives.

⁴ The affinities generated by us in our present life to be enjoyed hereafter

⁵ The six stains—hunger, thirst, grief, confusion, old age, and death.

⁶ Birth, existence, e.c.

with *sama*¹, who is free from emotion, malice, thirst after worldly objects, desire, delusion, etc., whose mind is untouched by pride, egoism, etc., who possesses all these qualities and means—he only is the *brāhmaṇa*.

Such is the opinion of the *vedas*, the *smṛtis*, the *itihāsa* and the *purāṇas*. Otherwise one cannot obtain the status of a *brāhmaṇa*. One should meditate on his *Ātmā* as *Sachchidānanda*, and the non-dual Brahman. Yea, one should meditate on his *Ātmā* as the *Sachchidānanda Brahman*. Such is the *Upanishad*.

SĀRĪRAKA-UPANISHAD'

OF

KṚSHNA-YAJURVEDA

Om. The body is a compound of pṛthivī (earth) and other mahābhūtas (primordial elements, as āpas or water, agni or fire, vāyu or air, and ākāś). (In the body), that which is hard is (of the essence of) earth, that which is liquid is (of the essence of) water, that which is hot is (of the essence of) fire, that which moves about is (of the essence of) vāyu, that which is perforated is (of the essence of) ākāś. The ear and others are the jñānendriyas (organs of sense). The ear is of the essence of ākāś, the skin of the essence of vāyu, the eye of the essence of fire, the tongue of the essence of water, and the nose of the essence of earth, sound, touch, form, taste, and odour being respectively the objects of perception for these organs. These arose respectively out of the primordial elements, beginning with earth. The mouth, the hands, the legs, the organs of excretion and the organs of generation are the karmendriyas (or organs of action). Their functions are respectively talking, lifting, walking, excretion, and enjoyment. Antahkarana (or the internal organ) is of four kinds—manas, buddhi, ahankāra, and citta. Their functions are respectively sankalpa-vikalpa, (or will-thought and doubt), determination, egoism, and memory. The seat of manas is the end of the throat, that of buddhi the face, that of ahankāra the heart, and that of citta the navel. The bone, skin, nādis, nerves, hair, and flesh are of the essence of earth. Urine,

¹ This Upanishad treats of Sarīra or the body

phlegm, blood, sukla (or sperm), and sweat are of the essence of water Hunger, thirst, sloth, delusion, and (desire of) copulation are of the essence of fire Walking, scratching, opening and closing the gross eyes, etc., are of the essence of vāyu. Desire, anger, avarice, delusion, and fear are of the essence of ākāś Sound, touch, form, taste, and odour are the properties of earth sound, touch, form, and taste are the properties of water sound, touch, and form, are the properties of fire sound and touch are the properties of vāyu sound alone is the property of ākāś There are three guṇas (or qualities), sūttvika, rājasa, and tāmasa Non-killing, veracity, not stealing, continence, non-covetousness, refraining from anger, serving the guru, purity (in mind and body), contentment, right conduct, abstinence from self-praise, freedom from pompousness, firm conviction in the existence of God, and not causing any injury to others—all these are to be known as sūttvika-guṇas chiefly. I am the actor, I am the enjoyer, I am the speaker, and I am the egoistic—such are said by knowers of Brahman to be rājasa-guṇas Sleep, sloth, delusion, desire, copulation, and theft are said by expounders of the Vedas to be tāmasa-guṇas Those having saṭtva-guṇa (go) up (*viz.*, to higher spheres)—those having rājasa-guṇa (stay) in the middle (*viz.*, the sphere of earth)—those having tāmasa-guṇa (go) down (*viz.*, to hell, etc.). Perfect (or divine) knowledge is of sūttvika-guṇa, knowledge of dharma is of rājasa-guṇa, and mental darkness is of tāmasa Jāgrata (waking state), svapna (dreaming state), sushupti (dreamless sleeping state), and turya (the fourth state beyond these three) are the four states Jāgrata is (the state) having (the play of) the fourteen organs, the organs of sense (five), the organs of action (five), and the four internal organs Svapna is (the state) associated with the four internal organs Sushupti is (the state) where the chitta is the only organ Turya is that state having jīva alone Regarding jīvātman and Paramātmā (enjoying the three states) of a person with opened eyes, with closed eyes, and with eyes in an intermediate state with neither, jīva is said to be the Khetrajña (the lord of the body) The organs of sense

(five), the organs of action (five), prāṇas (five), manas, and buddhi—all these seventeen are said to constitute the sūkshma or hūga (i.e., subtle) body. Manas, buddhi, ahankāra, ākāś, vāyu, fire, water, and earth—these are the eight prakṛtis (or matter) ear, skin, eye, tongue, nose the fifth, the organs of excretion, the organs of secretion, hands, legs, speech the tenth, sound, form, touch, taste, and odour are the fifteen modifications (of the above eight prakṛtis). Therefore the tatṭvas are twenty-three. The twenty-fourth is avyakta (the undifferentiated matter) or pradhāna. Purusha is other than (or superior to) this. Thus is the Upanishad.

GARBHA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

Om The body is composed of the five (elements), it exists in the five (objects of sense, etc), it has six supports it is associated with the six gunas, it has seven dhātus (essential ingredients) and three malas (impurities), it has three yonis (wombs) and is formed of four kinds of food

Why is the body said to be composed of five? Because there are five elements in this body (*viz*), prthivī, āpas, agni, vāyu, and ākās. In this body of five elements, what is the prthivī element? what āpas? what agni? what vāyu? and what ākās? Prthivī is said to be that which is hard, āpas is said to be that which is liquid, agni is said to be that which is hot, vāyu is that which moves, ākās is that which is full of holes (or tubes²) Of these, prthivī is seen in supporting (objects), āpas in cohesion, tejās (or agni) in making forms visible, vāyu in moving, ākās chiefly in avakāśa (*viz*, giving space) (Then what are the five objects of sense, etc?) The ear exists in sound, the skin in touch, the eye in forms, the tongue in taste, and the nose in odour (Then) the mouth (exists) in speech, the hand in lifting, the feet in walking, the anus in excreting, and the genitals in enjoying (Then) through buddhi, one knows and determines, through manas, he thinks and fancies, through chitta, he recollects, through ahankāra, he feels the idea of 'I' Thus these perform their respective functions

¹ The Upanishad treating of embryo, etc

² The Sanskrit word 'śashira' means perforated or tubular

Whence the six supports? There are six kinds of rasas (essences or tastes)—sweet, sour, saltish, bitter, astringent, and pungent. The body depends upon them while they depend upon the body. There are six changes of state (īz), the body exists, is born, grows, matures, decays, and dies. And there are also six chakras (wheels) depending on the dhāmām (noises), (īz), mūladhāra, svādhishthāna, manipūraka, anāhata, visuddhi, and ajña. Also the gunas are six—kāma (passion) and others and sama (mental restraint) and others, there being properly—association (with the former) and devotion (to the latter). Then there are seven kinds of sounds, (īz), shadja (sa), rshabha (ri), gāndhāra (ga), madhyama (ma), pañchama (pa), daivata (da), and nishāda (ni), which are stated to be seven agreeable and disagreeable ones; and there are seven kinds of dhātus having seven colours, (īz), sukla (white), rakta (red), krshna (dark-blue or indigo), dhūma (blue), pīta (yellow), kapila (orange-red), and pāndara (yellowish white). In whomsoever these substances arise and increase, the rasa (essence) is the cause of the one following and so on (as stated below). (These) rasas are six in number, from the rasas (probably chyme) arises blood from blood, flesh; from flesh, fat, from fat, bones, from bones, marrow, and from marrow, sukla (the male seminal fluid). From the union of sukla and sonita (the female vital energy), occurs garbha (conception in the womb). Being stationed in the heart, it is led. In the heart of persons, (there is) an internal agni, in the seat of agni, there is bile, in the seat of bile, there is vāyu, in the seat of vāyu, is hṛdaya (heart or Ātmā)

Through having connection at the ṛtu (season) fit for raising issues, it (the embryo formed in the womb) is like water in the first night, in seven nights, it is like a bubble, at the end of half a month, it becomes a ball. At the end of a month, it is hardened, in two months, the head is formed, in three months, the region about the feet, and in the fourth month, the region about the stomach and the loins and also ankle is formed, in the fifth month, the back (or spinal) bone, in the sixth, the face of the nose, eyes, and ears, in the seventh, it becomes united with Jīva (Ātmā), in the eighth month, it becomes full (of all organs), in the

ninth, it becomes fatty. Śukla belongs to men and sonīṭa to women. Each (by itself) is neutral (or is powerless). (But in their combination) a son is born when the father's seed preponderates. A daughter is born when the mother's seed preponderates. Should both be equal, a eunuch is born. Since females have more of passion, on account of their deriving more pleasure (than males from sexual union), a greater number of females are born. Action corresponds to the mental state (of the actor). Hence the child (born) takes after (the thought of) the parents. From parents with minds full of anxieties (at the time of union) are born the blind, the lame, the hunchback, the dwarf, and the limbless. (From impregnation) during the eclipses of the sun and the moon, children are born with defective limbs. Increase or decrease, similarities or dissimilarities of bodies arise (in children) through the influence of time, place, action, dravya (substance), and enjoyment. From a well-conducted intercourse (or union), the child being born with the form of the father possesses, his qualities, just as the image in a glass reflects truly the original. When śukla bursts into two through the interaction (or blowing against one another) of the vāyu of both śukla and sonīṭa, then twins (of the same sex) are born. In the same manner when the reṭas (the seminal fluids), viz, (śukla and sonīṭa) of both the parents burst into two, then mixed progeny (male and female) is the result. Among mankind, five embryos (only) can be formed at a pregnancy in the womb. A womb with one embryo is common. There are some with two. Those with three are only to be found (as rarely) as one in a thousand. Where there is a frequent pouring (of seminal fluid into the womb), a greater number of limbs is produced (in the child). When the pouring (within the womb) is only once, then the child becomes dried up (or contracted). By pouring (within) more than once, couples are (sometimes) born.

Then, (viz, in the ninth month), this (in the body) made of the five elements and able to sense odour, taste, etc, through tejas (spiritual fire), etc, which is also made up of the five elements—this cognizes the indestructible Omkāra through its deep wisdom and contemplation. It cognizes as the one letter

(Om). Then there arise in the body the eight prakṛtis¹ and the sixteen vikāras (changes) Through the food and drink of the mother transmitted through her nādis, the child obtains prāṇa. In the ninth month, it is full of all attributes.

It then remembers its previous births, finds out what has been done and what has not been done, and discriminates between actions, right and wrong. (Then it thinks thus) “ Many thousands of wombs have been seen by me, many kinds of food have been tasted (by me), and many breasts have been suckled (by me). All parts of the world have been my place of birth, as also my burning-ground in the past In eighty-four lakhs² of wombs, have I been born. I have been often born and have often died I have been subject to the cycle of re-births very often. I have had birth and death, again birth and death, and again birth (and so on). There is much suffering whilst living in the womb Delusion and sorrow attend every birth. In youth are sorrow, grief, dependence on others, ignorance, the non-performance of what is beneficial laziness, and the performance of what is unfavourable In adult age, (the sources of sorrow are) attachment to sensual objects and the groaning under the three kinds³ of pain. In old age anxiety, disease, fear of death, desires, love of self, passion, anger, and non-independence—all these produce very great suffering This birth is the seed of sorrow, and being of the form of sorrow is unbearable I have not attained the dharma of nivr̥tti, (*viz*, the means of overcoming the cycle of re-birth) nor have I acquired the means of yoga and jñāna. Alas! I am sunk in the ocean of sorrow and find no remedy for it Fie on ajñāna! fie on ajñāna! fie on the troubles caused by passion and anger, fie on the fetters of samsāra (the mundane existence)! I shall attain wisdom from a guru. If I get myself freed from the womb, then I shall practise sāṅkhya yoga which is the cause of the extinction of all evil and the bestower

¹ The eight prakṛtis are mūlaprakṛti, mahat, ahankāra, and the five elements; the sixteen vikāras are the five organs of sense, the five organs of action, the five prāṇas, and antahkarana

² The Hindus believe in so many number of wombs to be born on the earth

³ Those that arise from the body, the elements, and the devas

of the fruit of emancipation. If I get myself freed from the womb, I shall seek refuge in Mahesvara (the great Lord) who is the cause of the extinction of all evil and bestower of the (four¹) ends of life. If I get myself freed from the womb, then I shall seek refuge in that Lord of the world who is the Chidātmā of all śaktis and the cause of all causes. If I get myself freed from the womb, then I shall seek refuge in that supreme Lord Bhargava (Śiva or light) who is paśupati (the lord of paśus or souls), Rudra, Mahādeva (the great Deva) and the Guru of the world. If I get myself freed from the bondage of the womb, I shall perform great penances. If I get myself freed from the passage of the womb, I shall worship Viṣṇu in my heart who is the bestower of nectar, who is bliss, who is Nārāyaṇa, and who never decays. I am now confined in my mother's womb, and were I freed from its bonds, I shall please the divine Vāsudeva without diverting my mind from Him. I am burnt through actions, good and bad, committed by me alone before for the sake of others, whilst those who enjoyed the fruits thereof have disappeared. Through non-belief (unspirituality), I formerly gave up all fear (of sin) and committed sins. I now reap their fruits. I shall become a believer hereafter²."

Thus does the Jīva (Ātmā) within the (mother's womb) contemplate again and again the many kinds of miseries (it had undergone), and remembering always the miseries of the cycle of re-births, becomes disgusted (with the material enjoyments of the world), often fainting in the inmost centre (*viz.*, heart) of all creatures at (the idea of) his avidyā, desire, and karma. Then this being, who had entered many hundreds of female wombs of beings (in the previous births), comes to the mouth of the womb wishing to obtain release. Here being pressed by the yantra (neck of the uterus), it suffers much trouble. Moreover it is much affected by prasūti (delivery) vāyu. As soon as it is born, it comes in contact with the vaiśṇavī vāyu and ceases to remember anything of the past,

¹ They are kama (passion), artha (acquisition of wealth), dharma (performance of duty) and moksha (salvation).

² The reason why it remembers them seems to be that the jivātmā is in the material land then, prior to its coming down.

it also ceases to see far and to be the cognizer of the real. Coming into contact with the earth, it becomes fierce-eyed and debased. The evil of the eye after it is rubbed with (or cleaned by) water vanishes, and with it, vanishes memory of birth and death, good and bad actions and their affinities. Then how does he understand vāyu, bile, and śleshma (phlegm)? When they are in their proper state, they produce health with their disturbance, diseases are generated. It should be known that one becomes capable of knowing through a proper quantity of bile, through having a little more or a little less of it, he comes to know more. When the bile is changed (otherwise), he becomes changed and acts like a mad man. And that bile is agni. Agni influenced by karma is kindled by vāyu, the source (or seat) of virtue and vice, as fuel is kindled within (by fire) from without (by the wind).

And of how many kinds is that agni? It has three bodies, three reṭas (seeds or progeny), three puras (cities), three dhātus, and three kinds of agni threefold. Of these three, Vaisvānara is bodiless. And that agni becomes (or is subdivided into) Jñānāgni (wisdom-fire), Darsanāgni (eye-fire), and Kossthāgni (digestive fire). Of these Jñānāgni pertains to the mind, Darsanāgni pertains to the senses; and Kossthāgni pertains to dahara and daily cooks (or digests) equally whatever is eaten, drunk, licked, or sucked through prāṇa and apāna. Darsanāgni is (in) the eye itself and is the cause of viṣṭāna and enables one to see all objects of form. It has three seats, the (spiritual) eye itself being the (primary) seat, and the eyeballs being the accessory seats. Dakṣiṇāgni is in the heart, Gārhapatya is in the belly, and in the face is Āhavanīya. (In this sacrifice with the three agnis), the Purusha is himself the sacrificer, buddhi becomes his wife, santōsha (contentment) becomes the dikshā (vow) taken, the mind and the organs of the senses become the sacrificial vessels; the karmendriyas (organs of action) are the sacrificial instruments. In this sacrifice of the body, the several devas who become the ṛtvijas (sacrificial priests) perform their parts following the master of the sacrifice, (viz, the true individuality), wherever he goes. In this (sacrifice), the body is the sacrificial place,

the skull of the head is the fire-pit, the hairs are the kusa grass, the mouth is the antarvedi (raised platform in sacrifice), kāma (or passion) is the clarified butter, the period of life is the period of sacrifice, nāda (sound) produced in dahara (heart) is the sāmaveda (recited during the sacrifice), vaikhari is the yajus (or yajurveda hymns), parā, pasyanti, and madhyamā¹ are the riks (or rgveda hymns), cruel words are the aṭharvas (aṭharvaveda hymns) and khilas (supplementary texts of each veda), true words are the vyāhrtis² Life, strength, and bile are the pasus (sacrificial creatures) and death is avabhṛta (the bath which concludes the sacrifice) In this sacrifice, the (three) fires blaze up and then according to (the desires of) the wordly, the devas bless him. All who are living (in this world) are the sacrificers. There is none living who does not perform yajña (sacrifice). This body is (created) for yajña, and arises out of yajña and changes according to yajña If this yajña is continued in a direction changed (from the right course, or is abused), then it leads to an ocean of misery.

In this body, there are sixteen side-teeth, having each a membrane (as its root) and fifteen openings It (the body) is measured by ninety-six digits. There are in it fourteen nādi seats and 108 joints. There are seventy-two tubes seats with seventy-two nādis between them, of which three are important, viz, idā, pingalā, and sushumnā, the fourth is purīṭaṭi, and jīvaṭa the fifth Above jīvaṭa is bile and near bile is Purīṭaṭi. Above the navel, two digits to the left of it, is seated the source of bile The food taken in is divided into three parts—urine, faeces, and sāra (the essence or chyme). The urine dividing itself into two, spreads to the left below the navel The faeces is in the right side and is of seven kinds The sāra is of five kinds and spreads itself over the body Hence the semen and blood are produced from food and drink In this body, vāyu which is moving as prāṇa is the Sūtrāṭma Through it, one inspires and expires and moves (his limbs) Without it, no limb of the body will be

¹ Vaikhari and the three others are the different stages of nāda (sound)

² Vyāhrtis are parts of the Gāyatri Mantra, viz, Bhūh, Bhuvah, Svah

animated. Through vāyu, the current of blood is driven into the nādis from the chakra (plexus) of the heart, and those which can be touched (on the body) are easily discernible. The juicy essences (of food) which arise out of digestion enter the womb which is suspended in the stomach of the mother and coming near the child's head nourishes the child's prāna through the sushumnā (on the head or pineal gland) Sushumnā is the Brahma-nādi. Prāna and others are found there. It (prāna) descends lower and lower as the time of birth approaches and settles in the heart when the child is born. Through yoga, it should be brought from the middle of the eyebrows to the end of sushumnā (viz, the pineal gland), when he becomes the cognizer of the Real like the child in the womb. In the body of this nature, Ātmā is latent and deathless, and is the witness and Puruṣa. It lives in this body, being enveloped (by māyā) Piānī (or the jīva having prāna) has abhūmāna (identification with the body) on account of avidyā. Ajñāna which surrounds it is the seed, the antahkarana (internal organ) is the sprout and the body is the tree. In this tree (of body), there are eight crores of hairs, eighty hundreds of joints, nine hundreds of tendons, eight palams of heart¹, twelve palams of tongue, one praṣṭha (or two palams) of bile, one ādhaka of phlegm, one kudupa (or $\frac{1}{4}$ praṣṭha) of sukla and two praṣṭhas of marrow. One should consider everything as evanescent, like the child in the womb (with its prāna, etc.) stationed in the sushumnā (of the head). Then he becomes freed and gets no more body. If not, an ignorant man becomes subject to the cycle of re-births, etc., is exposed like a worm to the drink of urine and fæces, and undergoes in this body the sufferings of hell. Therefore knowing all this, one should be averse to worldly objects. Thus ends the moksha-sāstra of Pippalāda—thus ends the moksha-sāstra of Pippalāda. Thus ends the Upanishad.

¹ Eight palams are $\frac{8}{16}$ of a lb. (avdp.)

ṬĀRASĀRA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

S'UKLA-YAJURVEDA

OM Brhaspati asked Yājñavalkya. "That which is called Kurukshetra is the place of the sacrifice of the Devas and the spiritual seat of all beings. Therefore where should one go in order that he may cognize Kurukshetra, the place of the sacrifice of the Devas and the spiritual seat of all beings?" (To which Yājñavalkya replied.) "Avimukta² is Kurukshetra, the place of the sacrifice of the Devas and of the study of Brahman, because it is there that Rudra initiates one into the Tāraka³ Brahman when prāna (life) goes out. Through this, one becomes immortal and the enjoyer of moksha. Therefore one should always be in the midst of that place avimukta, and should never leave, O reverend sir, avimukta." Thus said Yājñavalkya.

Then Bhāradvāja asked Yājñavalkya "What is tāraka? what is that which causes one to cross (this mundane existence)." To which Yājñavalkya replied. "Om-Namō-Nārāyaṇāya is the tāraka. It should be worshipped as Chidātma. Om is a single syllable and of the nature of Ātmā. Namah is of two syllables and is of the nature of prakṛti (matter). Nārāyaṇāya is of five syllables and is of the nature of Parabrahman. He who knows this becomes immortal. Through Om, is Brahmā produced, through Na is Vishnu produced; through Ma is Rudra produced, through Nā is Īśvara produced, through Rā is the Andā-Virāt (or Virāt of the universe) produced, through Ya is

¹ Ṭā = Upanishad; itra = of the sara (essence) for tīra (crossing)

² It is one of the many names given to Benares

³ Tāraka is Om—from *tā*, to cross.

Purusha produced, through *Nā* is Bhagavān (Lord) produced, and through *Ya* is Paramātmā produced. This Ashtākshara (eight syllables) of Nārāyaṇa is the supreme and the highest Purusha. Thus is the Rgveda with the first foot (or half) That which is Om is the indestructible, the supreme, and Brahman. That alone should be worshipped. It is this that is of the eight subtle syllables. And this becomes eight, being of eight forms. A is the first letter, U is the second, M is the third, Bindu is the fourth, Nāda is the fifth, Kalā is the sixth, Kalātīṭa (that beyond kalā) is the seventh, and that which is beyond these is the eighth. It is called Tāraka, because it enables one to cross this mundane existence. Know that Tāraka alone is Brahman and it alone should be worshipped." The (following) verses may be quoted here "From the letter A came Brahmā named Jāmbavān (the bear¹). From the letter U came Upendra², named Hari. From the letter M came Śiva, known as Hanumān³. Bindu is named Īśvara and is Śaṭruḡha, the Lord of the discus itself. Nāda should be known as the great Lord named Bharata and the sound of the conch itself. From Kalā came the Purusha himself as Lakshmana and the bearer of the earth. Kalātīṭa is known as the goddess Sītā Herself. That which is beyond is the Paramātmā named Śrī-Rāma and is the highest Purusha. All this is the explanation of the letter Om, which is the past, the present, and future, and which is other than these (*viz.*) tattva, mantra, varṇa, (colour), devatā (deity), chhandas (metre), rī, kāla, śakti, and sṛṣṭi (creation). He who knows this becomes immortal (Thus is) Yajurveda with the second foot."

Then Bhāradvāja asked Yājñavalkya "Through what mantra is Paramātmā pleased and shows his own Ātmā (to persons)? Please tell this." Yājñavalkya replied

"(1st Mantra) Om. He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord described by (the letter) A and is Jāmbavān (the bear) and Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah. Salutation to Him."

¹ As the bear, Brahmā incarnated according to the 'Rāmāyana'.

² As Upendra, Viṣṇu incarnates in the lower śāla as well in the legs in man.

³ Hanumān is the incarnation of vāyu, one of the elements of Śiva.

“(2nd Mantra.) He who is Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord described by (the letter) U and is Upendra (or) Hari and Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah: Salutation to Him.

“(3rd Mantra.) Om He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord described by (the letter) M and is of the form of Śiva (or), Hanumān and Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah: Salutation to Him

“(4th Mantra.) Om. He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, the Lord of Śatrughna¹ of the form of Bindu and the Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah. Salutation to Him

“(5th Mantra.) Om He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord, and is Bharata¹ of the form of Nāḍa and the Bhūh Bhuvah, and Svah: Salutation to Him.

“(6th Mantra.) Om He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa and the Lord, and is Lakshmana of the form of Kalā and the Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah Salutation to Him.

“(7th Mantra.) Om He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord, and is Kalātīta, the Goddess Sīta, of the form of Chit and the Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah. Salutation to Him

“(8th Mantra.) Om He who is Śrī-Paramātmā, Nārāyaṇa, and the Lord that is beyond that (Kalātīta), is the supreme Purusha, and is the ancient Puruṣoṭtama, the eternal, the immaculate, the enlightened, the emancipated, the true, the highest bliss, the endless, the secondless, and the all-full—that Brahman is myself. I am Rāma and the Bhūh, Bhuvah, and Svah Salutation to Him”

He who has mastered this eightfold mantra is purified by Agni, he is purified by Vāyu; he is purified by the sun; he is purified by Śiva, he is known by all the Devas. He attains the fruit of reciting Itihāsas, Purāṇas, Rudra (Mantras), a hundred thousand times. He who repeatedly remembers (or recites) the Aṣṭakṣara (the eight-syllabled mantra) of Nārāyaṇa gains the fruit of the recitation of Gāyatrī a hundred thousand times or of Pranava (Om) a myriad of times. He purifies (his ancestors) ten (degrees) above and (his descendants) ten

¹ Bharata is rather the incarnation of deities or consciousness and Śatrughna, that of couch—*śat*, āśina sound.

(degrees) below He attains the state of Nārāyaṇa. He who knows this (attains the state of Nārāyaṇa).

Like the eye (which sees without any obstacle) the things spread (in the sky), the wise ever see this supreme seat of Viṣṇu. Brāhmanas who are spiritually awake praise in diverse ways and illuminate the supreme abode of Viṣṇu Thus is the Upanishad (Thus is) the Sāmaveda with the third foot.

NĀRĀYANA-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

Om Then Nārāyana, the supreme Purusha desired "I shall create offspring" From Nārāyana emanates prāṇa, manas, the several organs of sense and action, ākāś, vāyu, agni, āpas and prthivī that supports all From Nārāyana emanates Brahmā From Nārāyana emanates Rudra. From Nārāyana emanates Indra From Nārāyana emanates Prajāpati (the divine progenitor). From Nārāyana emanates the twelve ādityas, rudras, vasus, and all the chhandas (Vedas). From Nārāyana only do (all these) proceed Through Nārāyana do (they) prosper In Nārāyana (they) are absorbed The Rgveda teaches this

Then Nārāyana is eternal Brahmā is Nārāyana, Śiva is Nārāyana, Indra is Nārāyana, Kāla (time) is Nārāyana, Dik (space) is Nārāyana, the intermediate quarters also are Nārāyana, that which is above is Nārāyana, that which is below is Nārāyana, that which is in and out is Nārāyana, the whole universe which existed and will exist is Nārāyana Nārāyana is the only one that is stainless, sinless, changeless, and unnameable, and that is pure and divine There is no second Whoever knows Him thus, becomes Viṣṇu Himself The Yajurveda teaches this

One should utter "Om" first, then "namah," and then "Nārāyanāya" "Om" (is) a single syllable, "Namah" contains two syllables "Nārāyanāya" contains five syllables This is the sentence known as the Ashtākshara¹ of Nārāyana

¹ The eight syllables

Whoever studies this Ashtākshara of Nārāyana and recites it constantly, attains full life and supremacy over men, enjoys the pleasures of royalty and becomes the master of all souls. He attains moksha, yea, he attains moksha. The Sāmaveda teaches this.

The Yogin having pronounced (the name of) Him who is complete bliss, who is Brahma-purusha and who is of the nature of Pranava (Om)—a combination of A, U, and M—is released from the bondage of birth and mundane existence. He who practises the mantra “Om-Namo-Nārāyanāya” reaches Vaikuntha¹ (the abode of Vishnu). It is this lotus (heart). It is replete with vijñāna. It has the brilliancy of lightning. The son of Devākī is Brahmanya². Madhusūdana is Brahmanya Nārāyana who pervades all elements, who is one only, who is the cause Purusha and who is causeless, is known as Parabrahman. The Atharvana Upanishad teaches this.

Whoever recites (this Upanishad) in the morning destroys the sins committed the night (before). Whoever recites it in the evening destroys the sins committed during the day. Whoever recites morning and evening becomes free from sins, however sinful he may be. Whoever recites (it) in the noon facing the sun is freed from all the five³ great sins as well as from the minor ones. He derives the good effects of the recitation of all the Vedas. Whoever knows thus attains Sāyujya of Nārāyana (*viz.*, is absorbed in the essence of Nārāyana). He attains Sāyujya of Nārāyana. Thus is the Upanishad.

¹ Means Vishnu or Brahmā devoted to Tapas, Vedas, Truth, and Jñāna.

² They are theft of gold, drinking alcohol, the murder of a Brāhman, and unlawful union with the guru's wife and association with them.

KALISANTĀRAṆA UPANISHAD¹

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

At the end of Dvāpara yuga, Nārada² went to Brahmā and addressed him thus “O Lord, how shall I, roaming³ over the earth, be able to cross Kali?” To which Brahmā thus replied “Well asked. Hearken to that which all Śrutis (the Vedas) keep secret and hidden, through which one may cross the sam-sāra (mundane existence) of Kali. He shakes off (the evil effects of) Kali through the mere uttering of the name of the Lord Nārāyaṇa, who is the primeval Puruṣa.” Again Nārada asked Brahmā “What is the name?” To which Hiranyagarbha (Brahmā) replied thus (the words are) “1 Harē, 2 Rāma, 3 Harē, 4 Rāmā, 5 Rāma, 6 Rāma, 7 Harē, 8 Harē, 9 Harē, 10 Kṛṣṇa, 11 Harē, 12 Kṛṣṇa, 13 Kṛṣṇa, 14 Kṛṣṇa, 15 Harē, 16 Harē. These sixteen names (words) are destructive of the evil effects of Kali. No better means than this is to be seen in all the Vedas. These (sixteen names) destroy the āvarana (or the centripetal force which produces the sense of individuality) of jīva surrounded by the sixteen kalās (rays). Then like the

¹ This Upaniṣad treats of the means of crossing Kali completely. Nārada having asked the question in Dvāpara yuga—the third of the four yugas.

² Nārada is called Kālī Kāraka or the generator of kali or strife and discord. If Nārada is himself the strife maker, why should he go to Brahmā for the means of crossing Kali? Nārada being himself an adjuster of the laws of karma, this Upaniṣad gives the means of getting over strife, etc., in this Kali-yuga, when the whole of nature is thrown off its balance by the depraved tendencies of man. The jīva has sixteen kalas, corresponding to which sixteen mantras or words are given.

³ The story is that he was cursed by Dakṣha to roam over the worlds with a lion in his hand (viz., to adjust the laws of harmony).

sphere of the sun which shines fully after the clouds (screening it) disperse, Parabrahman (alone) shines ”

Nārada asked “ O Lord, what are the rules to be observed with reference to it ? ” To which Brahmā replied that there were no rules for it. Whoever in a pure or an impure state, utters these always, attains the same world of, or proximity with, or the same form of, or absorption into Brahmā

Whoever utters three and a half kotis¹ (or thirty-five millions) times this mantra composed of sixteen names (or words) crosses the sin of the murder of a Brāhmaṇa. He becomes purified from the sin of the theft of gold. He becomes purified from the sin of cohabitation with a woman of low caste. He is purified from the sins of wrong done to pitrs, devas, and men. Having given up all dharmas, he becomes freed at once from all sins. He is at once released from all bondage. That he is at once released from all bondage is the Upanishad.



¹ This number can be reached by uttering the mantra completely within one year if uttered at the rate of a lakh per day and within ten years if uttered at the rate of 10,000 per day, and within 100 years if uttered at the rate of 1,000 per diem

BHIKSHUKA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

S'UKLA-YAJURVEDA

Among bhikshus (religious mendicants) who long for moksha (salvation), there are four² kinds, *viz.*, Kutichaka, Bahūdaka, Hamsa, and Paramahamsa. Gautama, Bharadvāja, Yājñavalkya, Vasishtha and others belong to the first kind. They take eight mouthfuls (of food daily) and strive after moksha alone through the path of yoga. The second kind carry three (bamboo) staves (tied together) and a waterpot, and wear tuft of hair (śikhā), sacred thread (yajñopavīta) and red-coloured cloth. They take eight mouthfuls of food in the house of Brahmarshus, abstain from flesh and alcohol and strive after emancipation alone through the path of yoga. Then the Hamsas should live not more than a night in a village, five nights in a town, and seven nights in a sacred place, partaking daily of cow's urine and cow's dung, observing Chāṇḍrāyana³ and striving after moksha alone through the path of yoga. Paramahamsas like Samvarāka, Ārunī, Śwetaketu, Jadbharata, Dattātreya, Śuka, Vāmadeva, Hārītaka and others take eight mouthfuls and strive after moksha alone through the path of yoga. They live clothed or naked at the foot of trees, in ruined houses, or in burning grounds. With

¹ One who lives on bhikṣā or alms. Hence a religious mendicant.

² In Nārada-nārāyaṇa Upanishad there are stated to be six kinds.

³ A religious expiatory ceremony regulated by the moon's age diminishing the daily consumption of food daily by one mouthful for the dark half of the month, beginning with fifteen at the full moon until it is reduced to one at the new moon and then increasing it in like manner during the fortnight of the moon's increase. —Wilson

them, there are no dualities as dharma and adharma, gain and loss, and purity and impurity. They look upon gold and stone and clod of earth with the same eye (of indifference), live on alms, begging from all without any distinction of caste and look upon everything as Ātmā alone. Being (naked) as nature made them, being free from the sense of duality and from covetousness, being engaged in pure contemplation (sukladhyāna), meditating on Ātmā, and begging at stated times, simply to keep the body and soul together, they reside in ruined houses, temples, straw-huts, ant-hills, the foot of trees, potteries, the places of agnihoṭra, the sand in the bed of rivers, mountain-caves, cavities, the hollows of trees, waterfalls, and sthandila (the level square piece of ground prepared for sacrifice) Having advanced far in the path of Brahman, and being pure in mind, they quit this body through the methods prescribed for Paramahansa Sannyāsins These are the Paramahansas Such is the Upanishad.

NARADAPARIVRĀJAKA-UPANISHAD

OF

ATHARVANA VEDA

UPADESA I

Om. Once upon a time, Nārada, the ornament of Parivṛājakas (roaming ascetics), after roaming over all worlds and cleansing, through merely by looking at the places of pilgrimage able to impart rare religious merits, observed, with a mind that had attained purity, without hate, quiescent and patient, and indifferent towards all (objects), the forest of Naimiṣa (the modern Nimsār), filled with Rshis that were engaged in the contemplation of Reality and had attained the greatness of the ordained bliss; (there) through the recitation of stories about Hari (Vishnu), associated with the musical notes of Sa, Ri, Ga, Ma, Pa, Dha, and Ni (of the gamut), able to impart indifference to objects and to make one look down upon the universe, and instilling divine devotion, fixed and movable (or mental and bodily) he entered (the forest), fascinating the crowds of beings human, animal, Kimpurushas¹, celestials, Kinnaras,² Apsaras (Houri), and Uragas³ (collected there) (Thereupon the) great Rshis Śāunaka and others who had been engaged for twelve years in satṭva sacrifice well-skilled in the recitation of Vedas, the knowers of all, and the good practisers of tapas, observed Nārada the son of Brahmā and the devotee of the Lord, and having

¹ A lesser being with the form of a horse but with a human head.

² A lesser being with a human form but with the head of a horse.

³ A semi-divine serpent with a human face.

risen up, paid due respect to him. Then having with due respect requested him to sit down, they also seated themselves and addressed him thus "O Lord, son of Brahmā, what is the means of salvation for us? It is meet that it should be communicated (to us)." Thus addressed, Nārada replied to them thus "One born in a good family and fit to go through the forty-four samskāras, upanayana and others, should, under a teacher to whom he is devoted, study, after the recitation of the Veda of his own sākḥā (division), all the different branches of knowledge, then should fulfil, according to the rules ordained, for twelve years the observance of Brahmacharya (celibacy), such as the service of the guru, etc, then for twenty-five years the āśrama (order of life) of a grhastha (householder), and for twenty-five years the āśrama of a vānaprastha (forester) After thus practising well the fourfold celibacy,¹ the sixfold² householder's life, and the fourfold³ forester's life, and having performed all the duties thereof, he should acquire the fourfold⁴ means of salvation, thus the sannyāsin who gives up the desires along with the karmas of mind, speech, and body in this saṁsāra as well as the vāsanā towards the threefold desire (of son, wife, and wealth), and being without malice and endowed with quiescence and patience, undisturbed in the order of life of Paramahansa, quits the body in the contemplation of Reality, is an emancipated person Such is the Upanishad "

UPADEŚA II

All the Rshis, Śaunaka and others addressing Lord Nārada said thus "O Lord, please tell us the rules of sannyāsa " At which, seeing them, Nārada replied "It is but meet that we should know the whole truth from the mouth of Brahmā

¹ The four Brahmacharyas are - (1) Gāyatrī, (2) Prājāpatya, (3) Vaidika, (4) Naishtika.

² The six Grhasthas are - (1) Vārtāvytti; viz., Agriculture, (2) Sālinavytti, (3) Yājñavalkya, (4) Ghorasannyāsin, etc

³ The four Vānaprasthas are (1) Andumbara, (2) Vukhānasa, (3) Samprakhāli, (4) Pournama

⁴ They are Viveka, Vairagya, etc.

Himself" After the saṭṭra sacrifice was completed, he took the rshis along with him to satyaloka, and after duly making prostrations to and eulogising Brahmā engaged in meditation upon Brahman, he along with others was duly seated under the orders of Brahmā Then Nārada addressed Brahmā thus "Thou art guru, thou art father, thou art the knower of the secret of all learning, thou art the knower of all, thou shalt therefore tell me one secret Who else but thee is fit to tell the secret dear unto me? It is this Please tell us the rules of the real sannyāsa (asceticism) "

Thus prayed to by Nārada, Brahmā surveyed all in the four quarters, and after meditating for one muhūrta (48 minutes), and assuring himself that the inquiry was truly for the purpose of escaping from the pain of saṃsāra, Brahmā eyeing Nārada, said thus "The mystery that was imparted before by Virāṭ-Purusha of illimitable form according to the *Purusha-Sūkta-Upanishad* is now being divulged to you. It is very mysterious It is fit to be hearkened to with great attention O Nārada, one born in a good family and obedient to his parents, should, after the performance of upanayana according to the rules, find a virtuous guru that is other than his father, is of good custom and habits, of faith, born of good family, a knower of Vedas, a lover of Śāstras, of (good) qualities and free from duplicity Having made prostrations and rendered useful service to him, he should respectfully acquaint him with his intention Having studied all departments of knowledge and rendered service for twelve years, he should, under his (the guru's) orders, marry a girl fit for his family and dear unto him Then having performed for twenty-five years the karmas incidental to a householder and attained the status of a Brāhmaṇa that has performed sacrifices and the rest, he should beget a son with the only desire of perpetuating the family After thus spending twenty-five years in the performance of household dharma, he should bathe thrice daily for twenty-five years and take only one meal in the fourth period, he should live alone in the forest, after giving up his previous wanderings in city and village, and without desire for fruit, should perform the karmas incidental to that (forester's) order of life, and be

without desire for objects seen and heard. Being skilled in the forty samskāras, he should be devoid of desire for all, have a purified mind, have burnt up desire, jealousy, envy and egoism, and have developed the four means of salvation. Then he becomes fit for sannyāsa. Such is the Upanishad ”

UPADESA III

Then Nārada addressed the grandfather thus .

“ O Lord, by whom, after attaining the qualifications of sannyāsa, is it fit to be taken ? ” To which Brahmā replied “ After first expounding the qualifications of sannyāsa, the rules of sannyāsa will then be stated. Hearken carefully. A eunuch, the outcaste, the maimed, the lewd, the deaf, the youth, the dumb, the heretic, the discus-bearer, the Linga-wearer, the vaikhānasa (forester), the Haradhvaja (carrier of Śiva’s flag), the reciter of Vedas for hire, the bald-headed, one without (sacrificial) fire—all these, even though they have attained vairāgya are unfit for sannyāsa. Even though they have become sannyāsins, they are unfit to be initiated into the mahāvākyas (sacred vedic sentences). The Paramahansa sannyāsin stated before (as fit to take sannyāsa) is the one qualified. It is stated in the smṛtis that he is a parivrāt who is not afraid of others, as others are not afraid of him. The eunuch, the limbless, the blind, the youth, the sinful, the outcaste, the door-keeper, the vaikhānasa, the Haradhvaja, the chakrī (discus-bearer), the Lingī (Linga-wearer), the heretic, the bald-headed, one without fire (sacrifice), one that had undergone sannyāsa twice or thrice, the reciter of Vedas for hire—all these are not fit for regular sannyāsa but only for ātura-sannyāsa (*viz.*, sannyāsa taken while a person is afflicted, etc.). What is the opinion of āryas (Hindūs) on the (fit) time for ātura-sannyāsa (being taken) ? The time when prāṇa (life) is about to rise (out of the body) is called ātura. The time other than it is incapable of conferring (upon one) the path of salvation and is not ātura. Even in ātura-sannyāsa, the wise should according to rules, initiate themselves into sannyāsa after reciting the

mantras again and again in the course of respective mantras. There is no difference between regular and ātura-sannyāsa in the mantras to be uttered at the time of taking sannyāsa. There is no karma without mantras, (hence) karma needs mantras. Anything done without mantra cannot be termed karma. Hence mantras should not be given up. Any karma done without mantra is like an offering made in ashes. Through the consciousness (of the performance) of the karmas, it is stated to be ātura-sannyāsa.

“Therefore, O Muni, the recitation of mantras is stated to be in ātura-sannyāsa. One who is always duly doing agni-hotra (fire-sacrifice) should, when he quits (the house) for foreign places through indifference, perform the piājāpatya sacrifice in water and then take up sannyāsa. After completing in water the observances of karma through the mind, or the recitation of mantras, the wise man should attain sannyāsa. Else he becomes a fallen man. When, in the mind, indifference to all objects arises, then men should long after sannyāsa, (that being the best time for it), otherwise they are fallen. One who attains vairāgya should take sannyāsa. One who does not, should remain at home. That vile twice-born with desire, should he take sannyāsa, reaches hell. That Brāhmaṇa who is a celibate, who has under control his tongue, sexual organ, stomach, and hand may become a sannyāsīn without undergoing the ceremony of marriage. Having known samsāra as one without sāra (or essence) and not having undergone any marriage on account of the desire to know the sāra (or essence of God), they become sannyāsīns on account of the practice of the supreme vairāgya. The characteristic of pravṛtti (path) is the performance of karma, that of nivṛtti is jñāna. Therefore placing jñāna in the forefront, the wise man should take up sannyāsa. When the reality of the eternal Parabrahman is understood, then he should take up one danda (staff) and abandon the holy thread and tuft of hair. Then he becomes fit to eat the alms-food (of sannyāsa), having become devoted to Paramātmā, indifferent to those that are not-Paramātmā and freed from all desires. He becomes fit to be the eater of

alms-food who preserves the same countenance when he is beaten, as when he is worshipped or prostrated to. He becomes fit to be the eater of alms-food who is of the firm certitude that he is no other than the non-dual and indestructible Brahman, otherwise named Vāsudeva. He in whom are existent *sānti* (control of the organs), *sama* (control of mind), purity (of mind and body), *satya* (truth), *saṁtoṣa* (contentment), *ārjava* (straightforwardness), poverty, and non-ostentatiousness should be in the order of life of *kaivalya* (*sannyāsa*). When one does not, through actions, mind, or speech, commit any sinful action to any being, then he becomes fit for eating alms-food. Having become quiescent (through the control of the mind), having practised the ten kinds of dharmas, having, according to rules, studied *vedānta*, and having paid the three debts (to *devas*, *rshis*, and *pitṛs*), one should take up *sannyāsa*. Courage, fortitude, the control of the body, honesty, purity of (mind and body), control of the (inner) organs, shame, knowledge, truth, and absence of anger—these ten are the characteristics of *dharma*. One who does not look back (with pleasure) upon past enjoyments, nor forward into the future, and one who does not rejoice in the present, is fit to become a *sannyāsīn*. One who is able to control within, the inner organs and without, the external organs, may be in the order of life of *kaivalya*. One who while in life is not affected by pleasures and pains, as the body is unaffected by them after death, may be in the order of life of *kaivalya*.

“An ascetic of the *Paramahansa* (order) shall wear two loin-cloths, one ragged cloth, and one staff. Nothing more is ordained (in his case). Should he through desire wear more than these, he will fall into the hell of *raurava* and be born into the womb of an animal. Having stitched together old and clean cloths into one and having coloured it with red (ochre), he should wear it as his upper cloth. He may be with one cloth or even without it. He should roam about alone with the sole vision (of Brahman), devoid of desires, but he may be in one place alone in the rainy season. Having quite abandoned his family, including son and wife, *vedānta*, sacrifice, and the sacred thread, the ascetic should wander incognito.

Having given up all faults, such as passion, anger, pride, desire, and delusion, the parivrāt (ascetic) should become one that owns nothing. He is a muni who is devoid of love and hate, who regards equally a clod of earth, stone, or gold, who does no injury to any living creature, and is freed from all. That ascetic reaches salvation who is associated with Ātma-jñāna, who is freed from ostentation and egoism, from doing injury and tale-bearing. Through attraction to the senses, he becomes subject to fault, there is no doubt; through their control, he gains perfection. Lust when enjoyed is never gratified. Just as fire increases with the oblation (of ghee, etc., poured into it) so also lust waxes strong (with enjoyment). It should be known that that man who does not rejoice or grieve through hearing, touching, eating, seeing, or smelling is a jñendriya (conqueror of the organs). He whose speech and mind are well brought under control attains, completely and always, all the fruits of vedānta.

“That Brāhmana who is always afraid of respect as poison and always longs after disrespect as nectar, sleeps soundly and rises happily even though he is treated with disrespect. He moves about happily in this world. The one who treats him with disrespect perishes. All cruel words should be endured. None should be treated with disrespect. On account of bodily relationship, none should be made inimical. No anger should be directed in turn towards one who is angry. Soft words (only) should be spoken, even when (violently) pulled by another. No untrue words should be uttered, even should afflictions arise to the seven gates (of the body). One desirous of bliss should dwell in this universe through the aid of Ātmā alone, intent upon Ātmā, free from desires, and without the desire of blessing (others). He becomes fit for salvation through the control of the organs, the destruction of love and hate and non-injury to beings. He should abandon (all identification with) this feeble, perishable, and impure body of five elements whereof the bones are the pillars, which is strung by the nerves, coated over with flesh and blood, covered up by the skin, is of bad odour, full of urine and faeces, is ever haunted by dotage and miseries and is the seat of all ills. If an ignorant man be fond of this body firmly knit together

with flesh, blood, pus, faeces, and urine, nerves, fat, and bones, he would, *a fortiori*, be fond of hell. That (identification of the body with the Self) is alone the seat of the Kālasūta hell. That is alone the Mahā-Vīchi-Vāgura (hell). That is alone the Asipaṭiavanastomi (hell). Such an idea of the body being the Self should be strenuously abandoned, though all should perish. That love of the body is not fit to be felt by one intent upon his welfare, just as a low-caste woman eating dog's flesh is unfit to be touched.

"One (fit to reach salvation), after leaving all meritorious actions to those dear to him and all sins to those not dear, attains the eternal Brahman through dhyāna-yoga. Such a man, through the ordinances, gives up little by little all associations, and being freed from all pairs of opposites, remains in Brahman alone. On account of the accomplishment (of salvation), he should be moving about alone and without any help. He who having understood the effect of being alone never derogates from it, is never left in want. The bowl, the foot of the tree, the tattered robe, the state of being without help, the equality of vision in all these are the characteristics of the emancipated one. One intent upon the welfare of all beings, with a quiescent mind, having the three-knotted staff and bowl, and ever devoted to the One (Brahman), after taking up sannyāsa, may enter a village. Such one is a bhikṣu (alms-taker). Should two unite, it is called mithuna (a pair or union), with three, it becomes a grāma (or village), with more, it is a nagara (or city). No city or village, or, mithuna should be made, and an ascetic who commits these three (offences) falls from his duty. Through such intercourse (of ascetics), all kinds of talks connected with the king and alms, friendship, tale-bearing, and malice occur between them. There is no doubt of it.

"He (the ascetic) should be alone and desireless. He should not converse with anybody. The ascetic should ever be uttering the word Nārāyaṇa in each sentence. Being alone, he should be meditating upon Brahman in all mental, spoken, and bodily actions. He should neither rejoice at dying or living. He should be anticipating the time when life will close. He should

not be glad of dying, nor should he be glad of living. He should be biding his time like a hireling (for his pay). An ascetic who plays the part of the dumb, the eunuch, the lame, the blind, the deaf, and the idiot is emancipated through the (above six) means. There is no doubt of this. He who has not fondness for eating, saying that this is good and that is bad, who speaks only words that are beneficial, true, and moderate is said to be the dumb. He is a eunuch who is no more affected by the sight of a sixteen years old girl than of a new-born female baby or a hundred-years old woman. He who does not move about for more than the distance of a yojana for alms or for the calls of nature is a lame man. That parivrāt (ascetic) is said to be a blind man, who whether sitting or walking, has his vision extended to no more than four yokes' distance on the ground. He is said to be deaf who, though hearing words, beneficial or non-beneficial, pleasant or painful to the mind, is as if he does not hear them. That clever ascetic is said to be an idiot who is ever in a state of sleep, as it were, having his organs non-agitated by objects, even though near. He should never observe the following six—the scenes of dancing, etc., gambling, lovely women, eatables, enjoyables, and women in their monthly course.

“The ascetic should never in thought even think of others with the six (*viz.*) love, hate, pride, deceit, treachery, and the illusion (of confounding them). To the ascetics, the following six are sinful: cot, white cloth, the stories of women, love towards women, sleep during the day, and vehicles. He who is engaged in Ātmic contemplation should carefully avoid a long journey. He should ever practise the upanishadic vidyā tending to salvation. The ascetic need not bathe daily. He need not observe upavāsa (fast). He need not be one that had studied Vedas. He need not be one that is able to produce a commentary (lecture). He should daily observe acts without sin, deceit, or falsehood. He who, having withdrawn the organs within, like a turtle its limbs (within its shell), is with the actions of the organs and the mind annihilated, without desires, without possessing any object as his own, without dualities, without prostrations, without the oblations to piṣṭi devatās (they being with desires), without

mine or I, without awaiting anything, without the desire to be happy, and living in places where men do not live—he alone is emancipated. There is no doubt of this

“A celibate, or householder, or forester, who is (ever) vigilant, has karma, devotion, and knowledge and is independent, after understanding his peculiar tendency and having become indifferent (to his order of life), may¹ become an householder after ending the celibate life, or may from the householder's life enter the life of a forester, and then the life of an ascetic, or from the life of a celibate, or householder, or forester may (directly) enter that of an ascetic. The moment vairāgya arises in him, he may become an ascetic that moment, whether he is with vrata (religious observance) or not, is snātaka¹ or not, or with a discontinued fire-sacrifice or not. On account of that, some perform Piṇḍāpatya-sacrifice alone, or Āgneya-sacrifice may be performed. Is not agni, prāna? Through this alone, one should perform that sacrifice only which is connected with the three dhātus. The three dhātus are sattva, rajas, and tamas alone. With the mantra, अयं ते योनिर्ऋत्विजो यतो जातो अरोचथा । तं जानन्नमा आरोहाथा नो वर्धया रयिं ॥, agni (fire) should be taken in. Thus it is said (in the Śiutis) एष वा अग्नेर्योनिर्यं प्राण, प्राणं गच्छ स्वा योनिं गच्छ स्वाहा ॥ The agni from āhavanīya should be brought and taken in as before (with the mantras above mentioned). Should such an agni be not obtainable, the homa (oblation) should be done in water with the mantra, आपो वै सर्वा देवतास्सर्वाभ्यो देवताभ्यो जुहोमि स्वाहा । After performing homa, the water should be taken in and sipped. After uttering the mantra, साज्यं हविरनामयं मोक्षदं, he abandons the tuft of hair in the head, the holy thread, father, son, wife, karma, vedic study and mantra and becomes an ascetic. The Śiutis say that a knower of Ātmā should be engaged in meditation upon Brahman, through the three mantras tending to salvation”

Then Nārada asked Brahmā thus “How can one, without the holy thread, be a Brāhmana?” To which Brahmā replied “The wise should, after shaving (the head) together with the

¹ A celibate who has completed his first Āsrama.

tuft of hair, cast off the holy thread. He should wear, as his sūtra (thread), the indestructible and supreme Brahman. On account of (sūchanāt) its being an indication, it (thread) is called sūtra. Sūtra is the Paramapada (supreme seat). He by whom that sūtra is known is Brāhman. That sūtra (thread of Brahman) in which is strung the whole universe like beads on a sūtra (string), should be worn by the yogin that has known yoga and tatṭva. The wise man that is in supreme yoga should abandon the outer sūtra (thread). He who wears (in his heart) this sūtra of Brāhmic Reality is alone Brāhmana. Through wearing this higher sūtra, it becomes not a rejected one, not an impure one. Those only whose sūtra is internal, having the holy thread as jñāna are the real knowers of the sūtra, they are said to possess the yajñōpavīta (holy thread). To those whose sikhā (tuft of hair) is jñāna, whose holy thread is jñāna, and whose meditation is upon jñāna, jñāna alone is supreme. It is said that jñāna alone is able to purify. That wise man alone who possesses the jñāna-sikhā like the sikhā (flame) of agni (fire) is said to possess sikhā (tuft of hair). Those that have mere sikhā are no sikhīs. The Brāhmanas and others that are entitled to perform the vedic karmas are allowed to wear the (external) thread, only as an auxiliary to the karmas. It is only vedic. The knowers of Brahman know that a Brāhmanya (the state of Brahman) accrues to him only that has the jñānamaya sikhā (knowledge-tuft of hair) and the tanyāya (That or Brahmanful) upavīta (holy thread).

"Having known it, a Brāhmana should take up sannyāsa. Such a sannyāsin, should be, in order to bear the bodily afflictions, with one cloth, bald-headed and without having anything as being required (for his use), or according to rules, he may be (naked) as nature made his body, and should abandon his son, friend, wife, trustworthily relatives, etc., as well as all karmas and love for the universe, the loin-cloth, staff, and covering. Enduring all pairs of opposites without cold or heat, happiness or grief, fame or disgrace, without the six changes, I-ness, malice, pride, ostentation, jealousy, slander of others, love and hate, pleasure and pain, passion, anger, greed and

delusion and regarding his body as a mere carcase, without thinking of all the things, internal and external, that are other than Self. Without prostrations, without the worship of devas and pitrs and without praise or condemnation, he should wander about of his own accord. He should not receive gold and others. For him, there is no invocation or dismissal (of deities), manṭra or non-mantia, meditation or worship, aim or non-aim, others or not-others; without having another's or (his own) settled place of residence, and having a firm conviction, he should be in a desolate house or at the foot of trees, or in a temple, a plenteous turfed spot, a potter's place or that of agnihotia or sacrifice, river, tank, sand-heap, subterranean vault, cave, mountain-rill, the place prepared for sacrifice or forest, or like the naked personages, Śveṭa-keṭu, Rbhu, Nidāgha, Jadabharata, Rshabha, Durvāsas, Samvartaka, Sanatsujūta, Vaideha (Janaka), Vatasiddha, Śuka, Vāmadeva, Dattātreya, Raivataka, and Goraksha, he should roam about as nature made him, without being recognised and without any means of discovery of his course of life, like a lad, or an insane man, or a ghost, with the actions of a madman though not mad, after discarding in water the three-knotted staff, the stringed sling (bag), vessel, bowl, waist-string, loin-cloth, stick, and cloth. He should ever be engaged in Ātmic deliberation. Being in his natural state without being affected by the pairs, without receiving anything, being ever settled firmly in the Brāhmic path, having a pure mind, eating the food that is obtained without asking, in the palm as vessel, or in another's vessel in order to merely protect the body at the time required, being of equal mind whether the object is gained or not, without having aught of his own, always meditating upon Brahman, being with Ātma-nissthā, having eradicated all actions, virtuous and sinful, and having given up all—that one who ever utters Brahma-Pranava, that "I am Brahman" alone, with the blissful and non-dual jñāna, and after rising above the three bodies (to Brahman), like the analogy of the wasp and the worm,¹ gives up the body as a

¹ Referring to the idea of the worm becoming the wasp, with the latter's frequent stinging

sannyāsin, is said to have done all his work (in this world). Such is the Upanishad ”

UPADEŚA IV

“One who after giving up the world, the Vedas, the objects and the organs is in Ātmā alone, attains the supreme abode. A good ascetic should not make known his caste, name, gotra (clan), etc., his place and time, the Vedas, etc. studied by him, his family, age, history, observance, and conduct. He should neither converse with women nor remember the women he had seen. He should give up all stories connected with women. He should not even see the figure of a woman in a picture. The mind of an ascetic who through delusion adopts the above four things connected with women is necessarily affected and thereby perishes. The following are prohibited (in his case) Thirst, malice, falsehood, deceit, greed, delusion, the pleasant and the unpleasant, manual work, lecture, yoga, kāma (passion), desire, begging, I-ness, mine-ness, the obstinacy of curing diseases, penance, pilgrimage and the accomplishment of fruits of mantras, and medicines. He who performs these interdicted things, goes into a debased state. A muni who has moksha as his supreme seat should address such respectful words as “Please come, please go, please stay, and welcome” to one, even though he be his intimate friend. He should neither receive presents, etc., nor ask for them to be given to others. Even in dream, an ascetic should never direct a person (to do work for him). Even should he witness or hear of the happiness or grief of his wife, brother, son, and other relatives, he should not be affected thereby. He should abandon all joy and sorrow.

“To the ascetics controlling their mind, the following are their svadharma (own duties) Harmlessness, truth, honesty, celibacy, non-coveting, humility, high-spiritedness, clearness of mind, steadiness of mind, straightforwardness, non-attachment (to any), service to the guru, faith, patience, bodily restraint, mental restraint, indifference, firm and sweet words, endurance, compassion, shame, jñāna, vijñāna, yoga, moderate food, and

courage. That paramahansa of an ascetic in the order of life of a *sannyāsin* who is without dualities, always follows the pure *sattvaguna* and sees all equally, is no other than the actual Nārāyaṇa Himself. He may live one day in a village and two days in a city, but five months in the wintry season. At other times he should live in other places (such as forest, etc.) He should not live in a village for two days (even), should he do so, desires and the rest will arise in him and thereby he becomes fit for hell. He should live like a (harmless) worm on the earth with his mind under control and with no settled place of residence, at the end of the village where there are no persons. He may live in the same place in the wintry season. He should roam about on the earth with one or no cloth, with the one vision (of Brahman) alone, with no desires (of objects), with no condemnation of the actions of the wise and with meditation. That yogin of an ascetic should go about, observing the duties of his order of life, and with the eyes cast on the earth, in pure places. He should not roam about in night, midday or the two twilight periods in which are places void or difficult to be waded through or likely to injure living creatures. He may live for one day in a village, for three days in a town, for two days in a hamlet and for five days in a city. He may live in the wintry season (longer) in one place surrounded fully by water. The ascetic should regard all creatures as Self and dwell upon earth like the blind, the hunchback, the deaf, the insane, and the dumb. The *bahūdaka* and the forester should bathe thrice a day. In the case of *hamsa*, one bath only is ordained, but none in the case of a *paramahansa*. In the case of the one having one staff, seven things are ordained, *viz.* silence, yoga-posture, yoga, endurance, solitariness, desuelessness, and equal vision over all. Bathing being not prescribed for a *paramahansa*, he should abandon all the modifications of the mind only, what is the difference between the worms and the men that rejoice over this ill-smelling body which is but a collection of skin, flesh, blood, nerves, fat, marrow, bone, *ofal* and urine? What is the body but a collection of all, phlegm, etc.? And what are the qualities, the *vāsana* of the

body, effulgence, beauty, etc ? (They are opposed to one another) The ignorant man that is fond of this body, which is but a compound of flesh, blood, the ill-smelling urine and offal, nerve, fat and bone, will be fond of hell too. Though there is no difference between the women's secret parts that cannot be described by words and an (ever) oozing tubular wound, yet through the difference of the mind, (men are deluded) Such men are said to be without *prāna*, (*viz*, dead) though alive. Prostrations to those that sport in that piece of flesh which is rent in twain and tainted with the breaking of the wind, etc. What more revolting thing is there than this ?

“To the wise, there is nothing to do, no sign (of identification) The *muni* who is without ‘mine’ and fear, with quiescence, without duality and eating leaf (alone), should ever be in meditation with either loin-cloth or no cloth. A *yogi* who is thus in meditation becomes fit to be Brahman. Though he may have some signs (of identification to pass under this order of life or that), such signs are useless for gaining *moksha*. The cause of salvation is *jñāna* alone. He is a (true) *brāhmaṇa* who cannot be identified as *sat* (good person) or *asat*, knower of religious books or not, follower of good conduct or bad conduct. Therefore that learned man who is without signs, a knower of *dharma*, engaged in the actions of Brahman and a knower of the secret mysteries, should roam about, incognito. He should go about on this earth without any caste or order of life and without being (even) doubted (regarding his identity) by any beings, like the blind, the idiot, or the mute. Then (even) the angels become fond of him who has a quiescent mind. It is the dictate of the Vedas that the sign (of non-identification) itself is *Kaivalya*.”

Then *Nārada* asked the Grandfather about the rules of *sannyāsa*. To which *Brahmā* assented and said “Before either the *ātura* or regular *sannyāsa* is taken, *krachchhra* penance should be done and then the eight *śrāddhas*. In each of the (eight) *śrāddhas*, two *brāhmaṇas* should be fed, in lieu of *Viśvedevas* called *Satyavasū* and the (*Trimūrtis* called) *Brahmā*, *Viṣṇu*, and *Maheśvara*, in *Devaśrāddha* first, then in *Rshiśrāddha* in lieu of *Devarshi*, *Rājarsi*, and *Manushyarsi*, then

in Divyāsrāddha, in lieu of Vasu, Rudra, and Ādityas, then in manushyāsrāddha in lieu of Sanaka, Sanandana, Sanaṭkumāra, and Sanatsujāta, then in bhūṭāsrāddha, in lieu of the five great elements, pṛthivī, etc., eye and other organs and the four kinds of collections of bhūṭas, then in Pitrśrāddha, in lieu of father, grandfather and great-grandfather, then in mātṛśrāddha, in lieu of mother, mother's father and mother's grandfather, and then in Ātmaśrāddha, in lieu of himself, his father and grandfather or of himself, grandfather and great-grandfather, should his father be alive. He should perform the eight śrāddhas in one day, or eight days, with the mantras of his sākḥā in one yājñapaksha or eight yājñapakshas. Then he should worship and feed the brāhmaṇas according to the rules contained in pīṭryajña. Then offering the pīṇdas (balls of rice to the pīṭrs), he should gladden the brāhmaṇas with the tāmbūla (nut and betel, etc.,) presents and dismiss them. Then for the accomplishment of the remaining karmas, he should pluck off seven hairs, then again for finishing the rest of the karmas, he should hold seven or eight hairs and have the head shaved. Except his arm-pit and secret parts, he should have the hairs of his head, whiskers and mustache and nails shaved. After shaving, he should bathe and perform the evening sandhyā, uttering Gāyatrī a thousand times. Then performing brahmayaajña, he should establish his own fire and acting up to his sākḥā, should perform the oblation of ghee according to what is said therein till the ājya portion with those (mantras beginning with) Ātmā, etc., he should eat thrice the fried rice-powder, and then sipping the water, he should maintain the fire, then seated north of the fire on a deer-skin, he should be engaged in the study of Purāṇas, without sleeping, he should bathe at the end of the four yāmas and after cooking the oblation of (rice) in the fire, he should offer it to the fire in sixteen oblations according to (the mantras of) Puruṣa-Sūkṭa. Then having done vīrajā-homa and sipped water, he should close it with the gift (to brāhmaṇas) of cloth, golden vessel, and cows along with presents of money and then dismiss Brahmā (who had been invoked). With the prescribed mantra, he should attract Agni (fire) unto

himself. After meditating upon and coming round and prostrating before the fire, he should dismiss it. Then in the morning performing sandhyā and uttering Gāyatrī a thousand times, he should make upasthāna (worship) to the sun. Then descending into water up to the navel, he should make arghya (water-offering) to the guardians of the eight quarters, then he should give leave to Gāyatrī, making Sāvitrī enter into vyāhrti.

The mantra prescribed for this should be uttered through the mind and voice in high, middling, and low tones. With the mantra, अस्य सर्वभूतेभ्यो नमः सर्वं प्रवर्तते । the water should be sipped and having taken the water with the two hands, it should be dropped on the east. Having uttered स्वाहा, he should pluck his hair (yet left) and uttering the prescribed mantra and having torn off the sacred thread and taken it in the hand with water, should utter ओं भू. 'go to the ocean' and cast them down as oblation in water — ओं भू. संन्यस्तं मया । ओं भुव संन्यस्तं मया । ओं स्व संन्यस्तं मया ॥ Having uttered thrice and saturated thrice (the water) with (the influence of) the mantra, he should sip the water, and then uttering the mantras ओं भूः, etc., he should cast aside in water the cloth and waist-cord. Having thought himself to be the abdicator of all karmas, he, being in the meditation of his own Reality as nature made him, should go as before northwards with hands upraised. Should he be a sannyāsin learned (in the Vedas, etc.), he should get himself initiated into Pranava from his teacher and go about at his own free will with the thought of there being none other but his Self, and feeding his body with fruits, leaves and water, live in mountains, forest and temples. That lover of salvation who after sannyāsa roams about naked in all places with his heart full of the enjoyment of Ātmic bliss, with the fruit of avoidance of karmas and maintaining his life with fruits, juice, barks, leaves, roots and water should abandon his body in mountain caves, uttering the Pranava. But an aspirant after wisdom, should he become a sannyāsin, should, after walking a hundred steps, be addressed by the teacher and other Brāhmins thus: "O Mahābhāga (very fortunate person), stay,

stay, wear the staff, cloth and bowl, come to the teacher in order to learn the meaning of *Pranava mantra vākya*” He should then take up the waist-cord, loin-cloth, red-coloured cloth and bowl. A bamboo staff which is not injured from top to bottom, equal, beautiful, and not spotted with black, should be worn by him, after sipping the water and uttering the *mantra* prescribed for the purpose. Then the bowl should be taken up, after uttering the *mantra* with the *Pranava* preceding it — ओं जगज्जीवनं जीवनाधारभूतं मातेव मा मन्त्रयस्व सर्वदा सर्व सौम्य ॥ Then after first uttering (the *mantra*) गुह्याच्छादनं कौपीनं ओं । शीतवातोष्णव्राणकरं देहैकरक्षणं वस्त्रं ओं ॥ he should take up the waist-cord, loin-cloth and cloth with the *āchamana* (sipping of water) preceding it

“Thus consecrated with *yoga* and thinking that he had done all that should be done, he should be firm in the observances of his order of life. Thus is the *Upanishad*.”

UPADESA V

Then Nārada said to the Grandfather thus —

“You said that *sannyāsa* was the liberator of all *karmas*. Now you say again that the *sannyāsin* is one that should be in the observance of his *āśrama* (order of life) (How to reconcile the two?)” To which the Grandfather replied thus “To the *jīva* possessing the body, there are three *avasthās*—the waking, the dreaming, and the dreamless sleeping with *ṭurya* (the fourth). Those beings of *Purushas* that are subject to these *avasthās* follow the observances, incidental to them, of *karma*, *jñāna* and *vairāgya*” Nārada said “O Lord, if so, what are the differences of different orders of *sannyāsa*? And what are the differences of their observances? Please tell us truly”

Therefore the differences of *sannyāsas*, and the differences of observances were related for the sake of Nārada by *Brahmā*, after assenting to his (Nārada’s) question thus —

“Truly *sannyāsa* is of one kind only. On account of *ajñāna*, inability and non-performance of *karmas* (of persons), it is divided into three and then into four, thus *vairāgya-sannyāsa*, *jñāna-sannyāsa*, *jñānavairāgya-sannyāsa* and *karma-sannyāsa*

The vairāgya-sannyāsin is one who becomes an ascetic after being in a vicious condition of lust, etc., and then, becomes disgusted with the objects through his former good karmas. A jñāna-sannyāsin is one who becomes an ascetic with the four means of salvation, after controlling the organs through book-wisdom, and becoming familiar with the experiences of the world of virtue and vice, after abandoning anger, jealousy, envy, ahankāra and all sannyāsa productive of identification, after giving up the three vāsanās of the body, books and world, which are of the form of desires for women, wealth and earth, and after thinking that the whole of the universe should be given up, like vomited food. A jñānavairāgya-sannyāsin is one who becomes an ascetic as nature made him, after practising and enjoying all, and having the body alone remaining, through jñāna and vairāgya, in the realisation of the Reality. A karma-sannyāsin is one who, though he has no vairāgya, becomes an ascetic by regularly passing from one āsrama to another, from the celibate, to the householder and then to the forester. A vairāgya-sannyāsin is one who becomes an ascetic from the celibate order (directly), being as nature made him.

“(There is another fourfold classification) The four kinds are vidvaṭ-sannyāsa, jñāna-sannyāsa, vividiṣhā-sannyāsa and karma-sannyāsa. In karma-sannyāsa, there are two (sub-) divisions, nimitta (causal) and animitta (non-causal). Ātura-sannyāsa (on account of the cause of approaching death, disease, etc.), is nimitta-sannyāsa. The krama (regular) sannyāsa is animitta. Ātura-sannyāsa is on account of defective karmas. When sannyāsa is taken at the time of death, it is called nimitta. Animitta is that when one becomes duly a sannyāsin when the body is strong, (after being convinced) that all created things are subject to destruction, that body and others should be given up, that all Ātmās (souls)—each one shining in the pure Ākāś, dwelling in all, moving in the antariksha (middle world) as of the form of vāyu, in the sacrificial pit as of the form of fire, in the moon, in all men, in the supreme angels, in the form of truth, in ākāś, in the form of the conch, pearl, fish, etc., in water, in the form of grain, etc., on earth, in the form of the

limbs of Vedas, in the form of the rivers from the mountains, in the form of truth and the great one—are no other than Brahman and that others are but perishable

“There are six classes of sannyāsins—kutīchaka, bahūdaka, hamsa, paramahamsa, ṭurīyātīṭa and avadhūta. Kutīchaka is one who wears the tuft of hair, holy thread, staff, bowl, loin-cloth and tattered cloth, who worships mother, father, and teacher, who has potsherd and sling, who is uttering mantras, who takes food in one and the same place, who wears, vertically, the white earth (on the forehead as sect-mark) and who has a staff. Bahūdaka is one who, like kutīchaka, wears the tuft of hair, tattered cloth, etc., as well as the three (sect-) marks, but who eats eight morsels of food through getting alms. The hamsa is one who wears matted hair and the three vertical sect-marks and eats the alms-food without any limit (as to the morsel) and wears the bare loin-cloth only. The paramahamsa is he who is without tuft of hair and holy thread, begs food in one day from five houses, has one loin-cloth, wears one red cloth alone and sacred ashes and has given up all. The ṭurīyātīṭa is one who either may take fruits, eating them with his mouth like cows, or if he is an eater of food, may beg food from three houses. The naked man having the body alone has the bodily actions (quiescent), like the dead body. Such an one is the avadhūta. The avadhūta is he who is without any rules, gets his food (in his mouth), following the course of the box constrictor,¹ from all persons except persons of ill-repute and outcastes, and is ever engaged in the realisation of the Real. Should the ātma-sannyāsin be alive (after taking sannyāsa), he should take up regular sannyāsa. The rules to be observed in the case of the (three), kutīchaka, bahūdaka and hamsa, are the same as for the orders of life from the celibate to the sannyāsin. For the three paramahamsa upwards, they have no waist-cord, loin-cloth, cloth, bowl and staff. They may get food from all castes and should be as nature is. Such are the rules.

¹ The box constrictor, or box snake, is a species of snake which is found in the forests of India. It is a very small snake, and is known for its habit of coiling itself around a box or other object, and then squeezing it so hard that it crushes it.

“At the time of the sannyāsa, the recitation of the Vedas should be made till the mind is cleared, and after casting aside in water the waist-cord, loin-cloth, staff, cloth, bowl, etc., he should roam about. He should be without even the slightest tattered cloth. He should neither utter anything other than Pranava, nor talk nor hear. He should not study logic or grammar. He should not talk many words, they will but pain his vocal organ. He should not converse with people through the vocal organ. He should not talk in other language (than Samskṛt). He has no worship of God and no witnessing of festivals, he should be free from pilgrimage. The other rules of ascetics are: The *kutīchaka* should beg alms in one house only, for the *bahūdaka*, eight morsels in eight houses, for the *hamsa*, there is no limit, for *paramahamsa*, he should beg with his hand as the vessel in five houses, for the *turiyātīta*, he should eat fruits with his mouth like cows, (for *avadhūta*), he should take food like a boa constrictor in all castes. The ascetic should not dwell in one place for many days. He should not make prostrations to any one. Among the *turiyātīta* and *avadhūta* (ascetics), even though one is junior, he should not make prostrations to another, a senior who has known the Reality. He should not swim with his hands and cross the river. He should not climb up a tree, nor get into a carriage. Nothing should be purchased or sold (by him). No exchange should be made, no ostentation for him. There is nothing for the ascetic to do. If there is anything for him to do, he will perish. Therefore the only thing he is qualified to do is reflection, etc.

“To the *āturas* and *kutīchakas*, the world they attain is *bhūr-loka* and *bhuvārloka*, to the *bahūdakas*, *swargaloka*, to the *hamsas*, *tapoloka*, to the *paramahamsas*, *saṭyaloka*. To the *turiyātīta* and *avadhūta*, *Kaivalya* in *Ātmā* according to the analogy of the wasp and the worm through the realisation of Reality. It is the command of the Vedas that whatever form one thinks of at the last (death) moment and before leaving the body is attained by him and no other. Knowing it thus, he should not be a practiser of anything but the realisation of Reality.

Through the observance of any other, he goes to the world of that other. To one that has attained jñāna-vairāgya, his salvation is in the Self, as there is no other observance for him. The same one (Ātmā) alone is styled Visva in the waking state, Taijasa in the dreaming state and Prājña in the dreamless sleeping state. Through the difference of states, there is the difference of the agent presiding over them. To the fourteen organs (the ten organs of sense and actions and the four organs of the mind in these states,) the outer and inner vṛttis (modifications) are the material cause. There are four vṛttis, viz., manas, buddhi, ahankāra and citta. Through the differences of actions of the vṛttis, there arise the differences of separate functions. When (the presiding agent is) in the eyes, there is the waking state, in the throat, the dreaming state, in the heart, the dreamless sleeping state, and in the head, the ṭurya (or fourth) state. Knowing these and that the ṭurya is the indestructible, one should not hear or see anything in the waking state, as if he were in dreamless sleeping state. To such a one who does not apparently know them, even the dreaming state forms the same (dreamless sleeping) state. Such a one is termed Jīvanmukta. All the Vedas say that there is salvation to such a one.

“To the ascetic, there should be no desire of this world or the higher. Then he will be one that will practise accordingly. Through the practices of (the study of) books foreign to the realisation of Reality, he becomes a useless person like a camel bearing saffron paint. To him, there is no entry into yoga books, no study of sāṅkhya books, no practise of mantra or tantra. Should there be any entry into other books (than the one treating of Reality), then it will be like an ornament to a dead body. Like a cobbler, he should be beyond karma and knowledge and unfit for salutation and repeating the names of the Lord. He will duly get the benefit of the karma (of his order of life). Having given up all like the lotus dropping itself from the castor oil, having the mental surface like a lotus, the mind clinging to objects, having the mind like a lotus (forgetting) and having the qualities like a lotus, the mind like a

should go about like a lad, idiot, or ghost. He should neither desire to live nor die. Like a coolie abiding his appointed time (of pay), the ascetic should bide his time (of death). One who lives by taking alms without (the qualifications of) patience, wisdom, vanāgya and the qualifications beginning with sama (control of mind) is the spoiler of the order of life of an ascetic. There is no salvation obtained through the mere assumption of the staff or making the head bald or other disguise or through ostentatious observances. That man who has jñāna as his staff is said to be the ēkadandī (one having Brahman alone as the staff). An ascetic who, having merely a wooden staff without jñāna, eats all (indiscriminately) in all places, goes to the terrible hells called Mahāraurava. (The sense of) greatness in his case is likened by the rshis to the pig's dung. Having given it up, he should move about like a worm. Food and cloth without being begged for by him should be obtained involuntarily through the will of others. A naked (ascetic) may bathe at the wish of another. A man who practises the meditation upon Self in the dreaming state as in the waking is said to be the foremost and first of Brahmavādins. He should neither grieve for things not obtained, nor rejoice at things obtained. With the organs not attached to objects, he should be engaged in the sole protection of life. He should always look down upon the gains obtained with much respect (shown to him). Through the gains obtained with much respect, the ascetic though released becomes bound. What is meant by the protection of life, is this. When the fire (of the hearth in a house) had been extinguished and all have taken food, he may go to the houses of caste people that are fit for taking alms from. The yogin who has his hand only as his alms-bowl should not often take alms. He may take (food) standing or sitting, so in the middle (of taking food), he may sip water. Those who have pure mind should not over-step the limits like the ocean. The great ones do not give up their self-restraint like the sun. When the muni takes, like a cow, the food with the mouth only (without the use of the hand), he becomes of equal vision to all beings. Then

he becomes fit for salvation. He may, for alms, go from a forbidden house to a non-forbidden one. He should go (for alms) to a house where the door is ajar, but not to a house where it is closed. The muni who has a dusty body, an uninhabited house or the foot of a tree as his abode, without anything dear or not dear to him, sleeping where the sun sets, without any fire-worship, without any settled place and with patience and the organs under control, should live without any desire in any place obtained. He who after going to the forest dwells with jñāna as the sacrifice and the organs under his mastery and awaits his time (of death), is fit to be of the nature of Brahman. A muni who goes about with no cause for installing fear into all beings need never have any fear from them. One without any abhīmāna (identification with body) or egoism or dualities or doubt, never is angry, never hates, never lies through the vocal organ. That person who, having visited all sacred places, does not do any injury to any living creature and gets alms at the proper time, is fit to be of the nature of Brahman. He should not associate with a forester or householder. He should conduct himself in such manner as not to be known to others. He should not be glad of anything. He should roam about on earth like a worm, according to the direction pointed out by the sun. He should not do or cause to do works tending to (his) fame or pains or people's benefit. He should not be inclined towards vicious books. He should not live dependent upon any. He should give up all over-disputatious reasoning. He should not join any party (fighting with another). He should not take any disciples. He should not study many books. He should not discourse. Neither should he commence any works. Without any distinguishing characteristics and without letting others know his opinions, that wise man, or muni, ever intent upon the Brāhmic vision, should exhibit himself to people like an idiot, or a lad, or a mute person. He should neither do nor talk anything. He should not think of a good or bad thing. Rejoicing in That within himself, the muni should go about like an idiot. He should roam about alone without associating with any, and

with the senses under control. The clever jñānī sporting in Ātmā, ever delighting in Ātmā, looking upon all with equal vision like an Ātma-jñānī, and playing like a child, should wander about like an idiot. That learned man versed in Brahma-vidyā should talk like a madman. He should follow the observances of cows (by eating with the mouth, causing no trouble to anybody). A good jñānī whether pushed, disregarded, slighted, beaten, or hindered by the vicious, or burnt by their acts, or having urine and faeces thrown upon him by them, or afflicted in various other ways, should always think well of them though pained, and thus make them lift themselves through their own Selves. A yogin whether praised or afflicted by others, never thinks of it in order to reach a superior state in yoga. A yogin who is slighted by people, attains a higher state in yoga. A yogin never goes against the actions of the vicious. He is the same whether people slight him or do not desire his association. He should do all that is right through the actions of mind, speech and body to all beings born out of the embryo or the egg, etc. He should harbour no malice against any and give up all clinging to things. The ascetic after giving up passion, anger, pride, desire, delusion and other faults should be without fear. Having alms-food, preserving silence, tapas, special meditation, a good jñāna, and vairāgya—these are said, in the opinion (of the great,) to be the dharmas of the ascetic. Wearing the red cloth, and being ever in dhyāna-yoga, he should live either at the foot of a tree, outside the village, or in the temple. Daily he should live upon begging. He should not eat one food alone (if in one only). Till the mind becomes pure, the learned man should thus be moving about. Then when the mind is purified he may be anywhere as a paritrājina. Seeing Japaśūna is and out everywhere, preserving silence being without stain like vāta roaming everywhere, being equal in happiness and pains, and with patience, seeing whatever comes to hand, equally regarding without any hate brāhmana, cow, horse, bears and others, meditating through the mind upon Viṣṇu that is Paramātmā and Īśvara, thinking ever of Brāhmic

bliss and thinking himself to be Brahman alone—such a one having known thus, regarding the staff to be no other than the certitude of the mind as above, having no desire, being naked and having abandoned all saṃsāra through the actions ever done through the mind, speech, and body, attains salvation, according to the analogy of the wasp and the worm, through the practice of the realisation of Reality without ever seeing the universe. Such is the Upanishad.”

UPADESA VI

Nārada addressing Brahmā asked “O Lord! You said of abhyāsa (practice) according to the analogy of wasp and the worm. What is that practice?”

To which the Grandfather replied thus —

“One (*viz.*, an ascetic) should live with true speech and jñāna-vairāgya and with the body alone as the remaining (possession). Know jñāna alone as the body, vairāgya alone as prāṇa, sānti (mental control) and dānti (bodily control) as the eyes, manas alone as the face, buddhi alone as kalā (parts of effulgence), the twenty-five tattvas as the limbs, the avasthās as the five great elements, karma, bhakti, jñāna, and vairāgya as the branches (or parts) and that the waking, dreaming, dreamless sleeping, and turya avasthās and the fourteen organs as being of the nature of a pillar planted in the mud. Though such is the case, the man who masters these through his buddhi like a boatman regarding the boat immersed in the mire, or the elephant-driver regarding the elephant (under his control), and has known that all else beside Self is illusory and destructible and become indifferent, should ever utter ‘I am Brahman alone.’ He should not know anything as other than Self. A Jīvanmukta who lives thus is a doer of that which should be done. He should not discourse that he is other than Brahman. But he should ever be discoursing ‘I am Brahman.’ From the waking, dreaming and dreamless sleeping states, he should reach the turya state and then turyūṭīṭa (the state beyond turya). The waking state is in the day, the dreaming in the night and the

dreamless sleeping in the midnight. Each *avasthā* (or state) has its sub-states. The functions of the fourteen organs, eye and others mutually dependent are the following. The eyes perceive forms, the ears, sounds; the tongue perceives tastes; the nose, odours; the vocal organ speaks, the hand lifts; the leg walks, the anus excretes, the sexual organ enjoys; the skin feels, the *buddhi* perceives objects, being under the control of the organs, through *buddhi*, he understands; through *chitta*, he thinks; through *ahankāra*, he says 'I'. All these should be abandoned. Through the identification with the house (the body), he, like a householder, becomes a *jīva* thinking that the body is itself.

"The *jīva* is dwelling in this body. When he is in the eastern petal (of the heart) he is inclined to virtuous actions; in the south-eastern petal, to sleep and laziness; in the southern petal, to cruel actions; in the south-western petal, to sinful actions; in the western petal, to love of sport (or to flirt), in the north-western petal, to travelling; in the northern petal, to peace of mind, in the north-eastern petal, to *jñāna*; in (the middle of) the pericarp, to *vairāgya*, in the filament, to *Atma*-deliberation. Such are the different aspects to be understood (in the heart). The first living *avasthā* (of *jīva*) is the waking, the second is the dreaming, the third is the dreamless sleeping; the fourth *turya*, that which is not these four is *turyātīta*. The one Lord alone that is witness and without qualities appears (as many) through the differences of *Viśva*, *Taijasa*, *Prājña*, and *Tatastha* (the neutral). One should (always) utter, 'I am Brahman alone'. Else in the waking state, (he is) in the four states of the waking state and others, in the dreaming state, (he is) in the four states of the dreaming state and others, in the dreamless sleeping state, (he is) in the four states of the dreamless sleeping and others, in the *turya* (he is, in the four states of *turya* and others, to the *turyātīta* that is *nirguna*, such states are not. There is only one witness in all the states of *Viśva*, *Taijasa* and *Prājña*, who is presiding over the gross, the subtle and the causal

² Probably 'dreamless' refers to the sub-states of the dreaming, so also of dreamless.

(bodies). Is *Tatastha* the seer ? or is he not ? As (to *Tatastha*), there is the property of seeing, the *jīva* that is affected by the egoism, etc., of agency and enjoyment is not the seer. The one other than *jīva* (*viz.*, *Tatastha*) is not concerned (with egoism, etc.) If it is said that the *jīva* is not so (concerned with egoism), then it is not a fact. Through the *abhimāna* of the *jīva*, there is the *abhimāna* of the body And (conversely) through the *abhimāna* of the body, there is the *abhimāna* of the *jīva*. The state of the *jīva* is as a screen (to screen Brahman) like (the pot and house in) the pot-ākāś and the house-ākāś Through such a screen, he reaches self-realisation through the mantra—‘*Hamsa-So’ham*’¹ having the characteristics of inspiration and expiration Having known thus, if he should give up the identification with the body, then he does not identify himself with the body (*i.e.*, not attain the state of *jīva*) Such a one is stated to be Brahman Having given up *abhimāna* and anger, being content with moderate food, having conquered the organs and having controlled the avenues (of the organs), one should make the mind enter into meditation. The yogin who has always controlled (his mind and organs) should ever diligently commence his meditation in empty places, caves and forests The knower of yoga who is bent upon accomplishing the end should never be engaged in giving feasts to *Brāhmaṇas*, in *śrāddha* sacrifices, etc., or in going to places of pilgrimages, festivals or crowds. The well-controlled yogin should go about as if people had treated him with disrespect. He should not go against the actions of the wise That great ascetic is said to be a *ṭiḍaṇḍin* (or having a three-knotted staff) who holds firmly the three-*daṇḍa* (control) of mind, speech, and body That ascetic is said to be a supreme person who begs alms-food of worthy *brāhmaṇas*, when smoke has ceased and fire has been extinguished (in their houses) Is he not a degraded ascetic who, though holding the staff and begging food, is without *vairāgya* and is not intent upon the observances of his order ? He is an ascetic—not any other—who does

¹ With *Hamsa*, there is the inspiration, and with *So’ham*, there is the expiration

not go to the house where he expects to find special alms or which he already visited. He is said to transcend all castes and orders of life who realises the self-shining supreme Tattva that is without body and organs, the all-witness, the real vijñāna that is of the form of bliss. To the Ātmā that is of the nature of jñāna, such an idea as 'the order of life, etc., is mine,' being generated out of māyā in this body, can never exist. He who knows thus through vedānta is beyond all castes and orders of life. He from whom all castes and orders of life slip away through Ātmic vision, transcends them all and remains in Ātmā alone. That person is said by knower of the meaning of the Vedas to be ativairāṣāramī (beyond caste and order of life) who after crossing all castes and orders of life abides in Ātmā alone. Therefore, O Nārada, the castes and orders of life which are foreign (to Ātmā) are attributed falsely, by the ignorant, to Ātmā. O Nārada, for those that are Brahma-jñānīs, there are no rules ordained nor prohibited, there is nothing to be given up or not, similarly nothing else (for them). Having attained indifference to all objects even up to Brahmā's seat, having destroyed (or done away with) all fondness for everything, as for son, relatives, wife, etc., and having faith in the path of salvation, and through love of vedānta-jñāna, he should approach a guru who is a knower of Brahman with gift (in his hand). Having an equilibrated mind, he should satisfy the guru for a long time through service, etc., and learn with a steady firm mind the meaning of the sentences of the Vedas. Then being devoid of 'I' and 'mine' and of all attractions, and having attained peace of mind, etc., he sees Ātmā in himself. Through observing the faults of saṁsāra, there arises indifference. There is no doubt that sannyāsa arises in one who becomes disgusted with saṁsāra. The aspirant after salvation who is called paramahansa should, through the hearing, etc., of vedānta, practise Brahma-jñāna, which is the direct and chief means of salvation. In order to attain Brahma-jñāna, the one named paramahansa should possess the qualities of the control of mind and body, etc. He should always be a practiser of vedānta, being master of the mind, the body

and the organs, being without fear and egoism, with a firm mind, without the pairs (of opposites), without attaching himself to any, having a worn-out loin-cloth, and being bald-headed or naked. He should have the great intelligence of the knower of vedānta, a yogin without 'I' and 'mine' and being equal and friendly to friends and other beings. That jñānī alone and none else is able to cross saṃsāra who has his mind at peace. With the grace of the guru towards him, he should live with him for one year. He should be careful to observe yama (restraint) and niyama (religious observance). At the end of that (year), he should attain the supreme jñāna-yoga, and roam about on this earth without going against dharma, (or) at the end of one year, he should give up the three orders of life and attain the chief āśrama (of sannyāsa), as well as the supreme jñāna-yoga. Then, taking leave of the guru, he should wander over the earth, having given up association (with wife, etc., as well as anger, and being content with moderate food and having controlled the senses. The householder who does not perform karma, and the ascetic who performs karma—both become fallen through their perverse doings. Each becomes intoxicated through seeing women. Each becomes intoxicated through drinking alcohol. Therefore women, mere sight of whom is poison, should be shunned at a distance. Such things as conversation and proximity with, and sight of, women, dancing, singing, using violence against persons, and disputatious arguments should be given up. Therefore, O Nārada, to such a one, there is neither bath nor muttering of mantras nor worship nor homa, nor means of accomplishment, nor any karma of fire-sacrifice, etc., nor worshipping with flowers, etc., nor karmas to the piṭṛs nor pilgrimages, nor religious observances, nor dharmas, nor adharma, nor any rules of observance, nor any other worldly karmas. He should give up all karmas and worldly observances. That yogin of an ascetic who is a learned person, having his intelligence directed towards Reality, should never injure any worm or insect, bird or tree. O Nārada, roam through the world with vision ever directed inwards, with purity, with mind under control, with a mind that is full of Brahman.

and all attraction given up within. The muni that goes about alone, does (or should) not dwell in countries where there is no king. (In his case), there is neither praise nor prostration, nor the propitiation of devas or pitrs. Thus the ascetic who has his abode changeful (in body), or changeless (in Ātmā), should be content with whatever he gets. Thus is the Upanishad."

UPADESA VII

The Grandfather, after eulogizing Nārada who asked about the observance of ascetics, replied thus —

"The ascetic that has attained indifference (to objects), should stay in one and the same place in the rainy season (for four months), and then for (the remaining) eight months should wander alone. Then also the ascetic should not stay in one and the same place for more than a day. Like a deer that does not stay in one place on account of fear, he should not stay in one place. He should not create an attraction (in his mind) that may serve as an obstacle to his going about. He should not cross a stream (by swimming) with his hand, nor ascend a tree, nor witness the festival of a God, nor partake of regal food, nor do the external worship of God. Having discarded all things other than the Self, he should be with his body emaciated by taking food (from each house) like the bees (from each flower). He should not increase the fat (in the body), he should discard ghee like blood. Regarding such royal food as flesh, sandal-coating, etc., as offal, the different tastes as the degraded caste, the cloth as a defiled vessel, the oil-bath as sexual union, the gladdening of a friend as urine, desires as cow's flesh, the country known to him as the outcastes' place, gold and women as cobra or deadly poison, the place of assembly as the burning ground, the capital of the town as the hell called Kumbhīpāka, and royal food as balls of rice offered to the dead, he should be without any worship of God other than the Self, and having given up all the actions of the world and his own country, and over thinking of the bliss of his Self like the bliss arising from the discovery of a lost object, forgetting his country and the

fondness for his body, and knowing that his body should be slighted like a carcase, he should dwell away from son, relations and native place, like a thief released from prison. Taking whatever comes to him without effort, ever intent upon the realisation, through meditation, of Brahma-Pranava, being freed from all karmas, having burnt up all passion, anger, greed, delusion, pride, malice, etc., having transcended the three guṇas, being without the six human infirmities,¹ without the six changes,² speaking the truth and being opposed to all savoury things, he should live for one day in a village, five days in a town, five days in a sacred place, and five days in sacred waters. With no settled place of residence and with a firm mind, he should dwell alone in mountain caves without uttering falsehood. Two persons should not join together. Should three join, there is created a village thereby, with four, is formed a city. Therefore he should live alone in a village. In it, the ascetic should not give scope to his fourteen organs. Having attained wealth of vairāgya through the non-dissipated jñāna, and having deliberated within himself that there is none other than the Self, he should attain Jīvan-mukti, having seen the Reality everywhere. Till prārabdha karma is over, he should understand the four kinds of svarūpa³ (in Tattvamasā) and should live in the realisation of Reality, till his body falls (a prey to death).

“To the kutīchaka there is (prescribed) a bath three times daily, to the bahūdaka, twice, to the hamsa, once, to the paramahamsa there is the mental bath, to the turyāṭīṭa, there is the holy-ashes bath, to the avadhūta, there is the wind as the bath. For the kutīchaka, there is the vertical sect-mark, for the bahūdaka, there is the three-lined (horizontal) sect-mark, for the hamsa, both, for the paramahamsa, there is the holy-ashes sect-mark, for the turyāṭīṭa, there is the spot-sect-mark, for the

¹ The six human infirmities are hunger, thirst, grief, delusion, dotage, and death.

² The six changes are birth, existence, growth, transformation, decrease, and annihilation.

³ “Tat” has its two aspects of the word and its meaning which is Nirguṇa. In “Tvam” also there are two, viz., the disciple and the jīva.

avadhūta or for the turyātīta and avadhūta, there is none. For the kutīchaka, shaving takes place once in two months; for the bahūdaka, once in four months; for the hamsa and paramahamsa, none, or if wanted, once in a year; for the turyātīta and avadhūta, none at all. The kutīchaka should take the food in one (place only), the bahūdaka should take alms (in many places); for the hamsa and paramahamsa, the hand is the vessel; the turyātīta, should take food with the mouth as the cow, for the avadhūta, it is like the action of the boa constrictor (opening the mouth and taking whatever comes into it). For the kutīchaka, there are two cloths; for the bahūdaka, there is one cloth; for the hamsa there is a piece of cloth; and the paramahamsa should be naked or have only a loin-cloth; in the case of the turyātīta and avadhūta, they should be as nature made them. For the hamsa and paramahamsa, there is (prescribed) a deer-skin, and for no others. For the kutīchaka and bahūdaka, there is the worship of the divine (image); for the hamsa and paramahamsa, there is mental worship for the turyātīta and avadhūta, there is the idea that they alone are Brahman. The kutīchaka and bahūdaka are entitled to mantras and japas; the hamsa and paramahamsa, to dhyāna (meditation); the turyātīta and avadhūta are entitled to none; but they are entitled to the initiation of the sacred sentences of the Vedas, so also the paramahamsa. The kutīchaka and bahūdaka are not entitled to initiate others, for them, there is (the uttering of) the mental praṇava, for the hamsa and paramahamsa, there is the internal praṇava (in the heart); for the turyātīta and avadhūta, there is the Brahma-praṇava (always). For the kutīchaka and bahūdaka, there is śravaṇa (hearing and study), for the hamsa and paramahamsa, there is manana (thinking and remembering), for the turyātīta and avadhūta there is nididhyāsana (profound meditation ever). For all these, there is necessarily the meditation upon Ātmā. Thus the aspirant after salvation should ever be uttering the Praṇava which enables one to cross saṃsāra, and be living as a Jīvanmukta. Thus the ascetic, according to each one's capacity, should ever be seeking the means to attain Kaivalya. Such is the Upanishad."

UPADESA VIII

Then Nārada asked Parameshthī (Brahmā) to enlighten him, who had surrendered himself to Him, about samsāra-ṭāraka (or that tāra or Pranava which lifts one out of samsāra)

Assenting to which, Brahmā began thus "Omkāra that is Brahman is the vyashti (individual) and the samashti (cosmic) What is the individual? What is the cosmic? Brahma-pranava is of three kinds, samhāra- (destructive) pranava, sṛshti- (creative) pranava, and ubhayātmaka (belonging to both) pranava, as being of two forms, internal and external (It is also eight) Antah-pranava, Vyāvahārika-pranava, bāhya-pranava, īrsha-pranava, ubhayātmaka or virāt-pranava, samhāra-pranava, brahma-pranava, and ardhamātīā pranava Om is Brahman Know that the manṭra of the one-syllabled Om is Pranava. It has the eight differences of akāra, ukāra, makāra, ardhamātrā, nāda, bindu, kalā, and śakti Know it is not four (alone) Akāra is associated with ten thousand limbs, ukāra, with one thousand limbs, makāra with one hundred limbs, ardhamātrā is of the nature of endless limbs That which is saguṇa (associated with guṇas) is virāt- (preservation) pranava, that which is niguṇa (not associated with guṇas) is samhāra- (or destruction) pranava, that which is associated with guṇas and is not so associated, is utpatti- (or origination) pranava Pluṭa (the elongated accent) is virāt pluṭapluta is samhāra The virāt-pranava is of the form of sixteen mātṛās and is above the thirty-six tatṭvas The sixteen mātṛās are thus Akāra is the first mātṛā, ukāra is the second, makāra is the third, ardhamātrā is the fourth; nāda is the fifth, bindu is the sixth, kalā is the seventh, kalātīta is the eighth, śānti is the ninth, śāntyaṭīta is the tenth, unmanī is the eleventh, manonmanī is the twelfth, purīṭati is the thirteenth, tanumadhyamā is the fourteenth, pati is the fifteenth, parā is the sixteenth Then (again) having sixty-four mātṛās and their division into the two, Prakṛti and Paruṣha and resolving themselves into the one hundred and twenty-eight differences of mātṛās, it becomes saguṇa and niguṇa Though Brahma-pranava is one only, it is the substratum of all, the support

of the whole universe, of the form of all aksharas (letters), time, Vedas, and Śiva. This Omkāra should be sought after, that is mentioned in the Vedas of the nature of the Upanishads. Know that this Omkāra is the Ātmā that is indestructible during the three periods of time, past, present, and future, able to confer salvation and eulogized by Brahma-sound (Vedas). Having experienced this one Om as immortal and ageless, and having brought about the Brahma-nature in this body, become convinced that your Ātmā, associated with the three bodies, is Parabrahman. Through Viśva and others (*viz*, Taijasa, Prāñña, and Tuiya) in order, the realisation of Parabrahman should be attained, since Ātmā is of four kinds through his identification with, and the enjoying of, the gross as well as the enjoyer of the gross, the subtle as well as the enjoyer of the subtle, and through his identification (with the third body) enjoying bliss in the fourth. He has four feet. The one presiding over the waking state is gross, and since he is the enjoyer of Viśva (the universe), he becomes the sthūla-prajñā (gross consciousness). He has nineteen¹ facets and eight parts. He is pervading everywhere and the Lord. He is the enjoyer of the gross and is the chaṭurātma called Viśva. He alone is the Puruṣa called Vaiśvānara. He alone is Viśvajit (the conqueror of the universe). This is the first foot. When this Lord attains the dreaming condition, he is the sūkṣma-prajñā (subtle consciousness). O conqueror of all, he is the one having eight limbs, and there is none else. He is the enjoyer of the subtle and is chaṭurātma, named Taijasa and the protector of elements. He alone is the Hiraṇyagarbha, presiding over the gross (or subtle matter rather). He is said to form the second foot. Sushupti (or the dreamless sleep) is that state where one sleeps without any desire and where one sees not any dreams. The one identified with this dreamless sleep is Prajñāna-ghana, is blissful, of the nature of eternal bliss and the Ātmā in all creatures, yet he is enjoyer of bliss, has cheṭas (consciousness) as his (one) foot, is all-pervading, indestructible,

¹ The nineteen are the five organs of sense, the five organs of action, the five prāṇas, and the four of the mind.

of the first foot, and is named Prajā, the third foot. He who is the Lord of all, the knower of all, the subtlest of all, the highest, and the cause of all creation. He is the cause of all destruction. The three (states) are of the same nature as one another (the final peace). As is the nature of the dream, the waking state is said to be illusory. The three states, the waking, the dream, and the deep sleep, and Jāgrat, Chit and Jīva (the one, the self, and the follower) follow upon the heels of each other. The waking state is the knower of the means of vikalpa-jāgrat, and the dream state (the one follower knower). Having known the waking state, the three vikalpa of sushupti, dream, and deep sleep (the minor), even in this state, is the waking state. It is said that Jāgrat, Chit and Jīva shall be expressed in the waking state. It is not even the gross prajā, nor is it the subtle prajā, nor is it prajā itself (of the causal body). It is neither is it the trifling prajā, nor is it the non-prajā, nor is it the dual prajā, nor is it the internal prajā, though it is without prajā, it is Prajāna-ghana. It can never be known by the organs, nor it can be known by the reason, it cannot be grasped by the organs of action. It cannot be proved. It cannot be reached by thought. It cannot be proved by analogy. It can be realised by Self-realisation alone. It is with the waking state, etc. It is the auspicious, with changes, without a second. Such a one is thought to be Turya. This alone is Brahman, Brahma-pranava. This should be known. There is no other Turya. To the aspirants after salvation, it is the support, like the sun everywhere, it is the Self-light. As it alone is Brahman, this Brahma-Akūś is shining always. Thus is the Upanishad."

UPADESA IX

Nārada asked "Who is Brahma-svarūpa?" To which Brahman replied thus "Brahma-svarūpa is thus. Those who know that 'he (Brahman) is one and I am another' are only paśus (animals). The real paśus (animals) are no animals. The wise man who knows Brahman thus (as himself, and himself

of the whole universe, of the form of all aksharas (letters), time, Vedas, and Śiva. This Omkāra should be sought after, that is mentioned in the Vedas of the nature of the Upanishads. Know that this Omkāra is the Ātmā that is indestructible during the three periods of time, past, present, and future, able to confer salvation and eulogized by Brahma-sound (Vedas). Having experienced this one Om as immortal and ageless, and having brought about the Brahma-nature in this body, become convinced that your Ātmā, associated with the three bodies, is Parabrahman. Through Viśva and others (*viz.*, Taijasa, Prājñā, and Turya) in order, the realisation of Parabrahman should be attained, since Ātmā is of four kinds through his identification with, and the enjoying of, the gross as well as the enjoyer of the gross, the subtle as well as the enjoyer of the subtle, and through his identification (with the third body) enjoying bliss in the fourth. He has four feet. The one presiding over the waking state is gross, and since he is the enjoyer of Viśva (the universe), he becomes the s̥hūla-prajñā (gross consciousness). He has nineteen¹ facets and eight parts. He is pervading everywhere and the Lord. He is the enjoyer of the gross and is the chaṭurātma called Viśva. He alone is the Puruṣa called Vaisvānara. He alone is Viśvajit (the conqueror of the universe). This is the first foot. When this Lord attains the dreaming condition, he is the sūkshma-prajñā (subtle consciousness). O conqueror of all, he is the one having eight limbs, and there is none else. He is the enjoyer of the subtle and is chaṭurātma, named Taijasa and the protector of elements. He alone is the Hiranyagarbha, presiding over the gross (or subtle matter rather). He is said to form the second foot. Sushupti (or the dreamless sleep) is that state where one sleeps without any desire and where one sees not any dreams. The one identified with this dreamless sleep is Prajñāna-ghana, is blissful, of the nature of eternal bliss and the Ātmā in all creatures, yet he is enjoyer of bliss, has chetasa (consciousness) as his (one) foot, is all-pervading, indestructible,

¹ The nineteen are the five organs of sense, the five organs of action, the five prāṇas, and the four of the mind.

chaṭurātmā and the Lord, and is named Prājña, the third foot. He alone is the Lord of all, the knower of all, the subtle-thoughted, the latent one, and the cause of all creation. He alone is the origin and the destruction. These three (states) are obstacles to all creatures obtaining (the final) peace. As is svapna, so is sushupti, it (also) being said to be illusory. The chaṭurātmā, the fourth, as he is Sat, Chit and Ēkarasa (the one essence), ends as the fourth and follows (upon the heels of each of the above states), is the knower of the means of vikalpa-jñāna and is the anujñātā (the one following knower). Having known them, and known as māyā the three vikalpas of sushupti, svapna and āṇṭara (the inner), even in this state, is he not (to be known as) Sat-Chit-Ēkarasa? This shall be expressed as differentiated thus. It is not even the gross prajñā, nor is it the very subtle prajñā, nor is it prajñā itself (of the causal body). O muni neither is it the trifling prajñā, nor is it the non-prajñā, nor is it the dual prajñā, nor is it the internal prajñā, though it is without prajñā, it is Prajñāna-ghana. It can never be known by the organs, nor it can be known by the reason, it cannot be grasped by the organs of action. It cannot be proved. It cannot be reached by thought. It cannot be proved by analogy. It can be realised by Self-realisation alone. It is with the waking state, etc. It is the auspicious, with changes, without a second. Such a one is thought to be Turya. This alone is Brahman, Braham-pranava. This should be known. There is no other Turya. To the aspirants after salvation, it is the support, like the sun everywhere, it is the Self-light. As it alone is Brahman, this Braham-Ākāś is shining always. Thus is the Upanishad."

UPADESA IX

Nārada asked "Who is Braham-swarūpa?" To which Brahmā replied thus "Braham-swarūpa is thus. Those who know that 'he (Braham) is one and I am another' are only pasus (animals). The real pasus (animals) are no animals. The wise man who knows Brahman thus (as himself, and himself

as Brahman) escapes out of the mouth of death There is no other path to salvation.

"Is time the cause (of origination of universes)?¹ or nature? or karma? or accident? or the (great) elements? or Purusha? This should be considered. It is not the union of them (Then) there is the Ātmā, but (jīva-) Ātmā is not the Lord, as it is subject to pleasures and pains Those (Rshis) following dhyāna-yoga have beheld, as the cause, the devāṭma-sakti concealed by its own qualities of that One that presides over all the causes associated with time and Ātmā Him (the Universal Soul), we consider as the wheel which has one circumference, which is covered by three (layers), which has sixteen end-parts, which has fifty spokes and twenty counter-spokes, which has six times eight (nails), which has one rope of various forms, which has the threefold path, and which has delusion arising from the twofold cause. Him (we worship as a river) which has (water) oozing out of the five currents (of organs), which is terrible and crooked through the five causes (of elements), whose prāṇas are the five waves, which has buddhi, etc., as the root cause, which has five whirlpools, which is impelled by the velocity of the five pains, which has fifty differences (or has the five miseries), and which has the five obstacles In this wheel of Brahman, which is the support of life and the last abiding place of all beings, and which is infinite, is whirling deluded the jīva, thinking that it is different from the one (Lord) Ordainer. Being blessed by Him, he gains salvation through such (a blessing). This is declared as Brahman, as the supreme and the indestructible In it, are the three (the enjoyer, the enjoyed and enjoyment). Hence it is the firm abode (of all) The knowers of Brahman having known Brahman within (the universe, etc.,) attain samādhi in Brahman and are absorbed in Brahman Īśvara upholds this universe, closely associated with the destructible and the indestructible which are manifest and unmanifest, but the not-ruler of (jīva-) Ātmā is bound through the thought of its being the enjoyer, and having known the Lord is freed from all

¹ The Sanskrit text translated here is:

fetters. Both Īśvara and jīva are birthless, one (the former) is jñānī and the other (latter) is ajñānī (The goddess of) Brahmadātma-sakti, is birthless, is alone engaged (in this world), on account of the enjoyment of the enjoyers. Ātmā is endless. The universe is His form. He is not the agent. Whoever knows the Brahman that is threefold (as jīva, Īśvara and the universe) is released from bondage. It is pradhāna alone that is destructible. It is Īśvara that is immortal and indestructible. The one Lord (Īśvara) ordains Pradhāna and Puruṣa.

“The illusion of the universe disappears through meditation on union (or absorption) and satṭva-bhāva of Paramesvara always. Through knowing the Lord, avidyā and the rest are destroyed. Through the removal of such pains, there is freedom from birth and death. Through the meditation of that Paramesvara, the third body is acquired after this (physical) body, all wealth is enjoyed, and he attains whatever should be attained. He should know with certitude that all the three things (*viz.*) the enjoyer, the enjoyed, and enjoyment are nothing but Brahman, and are of the nature of his own Self. There is none but It to be known. All Ātmic knowledge is through tapas (only). That, Brahman contains in itself all excellence. Having known thus, whoever meditates upon the (Ātma-) svarūpa, to him where then is grief? Where then is delusion? Therefore the Virāt is the past, present, and future time, and is of indestructible nature.

“Ātmā, that is the atom of atoms and the greatest of the greatest, is in the cave of the heart of all creatures. One without the thought of objects and without grief, knows the Ātmā capable of neither increase nor decrease through the grace of Īśvara or through the non-attraction to the objects of the senses. He (Ātmā) walks speedily without legs, lifts objects without hands, sees without eyes and hears without ears. He knows all, but none knows Him. He is said to be the foremost Mahā-Puruṣa. Having known Ātmā that is bodiless in this fleeting body, the great, the all-pervading, the support of all, with incomprehensible power, fit to be known through the meaning, etc., of all the Upanishads, the supreme of the supreme, the supreme object fit to be known, the one remaining after all,

the all-knowing, the eternal, the foremost of all foremost beings, the ordainer of all, the one fit to be worshipped by all angels, the one without beginning, end, and middle, without limit or destruction, the cause of Brahmā, Vishnu, and Rudra, the one that has all the universe latent in himself, of the nature of the five elements with the expansion of all the quintuplicated creation, without being enveloped by his own limbs of quintuplicated objects, superior to the supreme, greater than the greatest, of the nature of effulgence, the eternal and the auspicious, the undaunted personage never grieves. One who has neither given up vicious actions, nor controlled his organs, nor mastered his mind, nor given up longing after fruits of actions though the mind is undisturbed, nor brought his mind to one state (or point), will not attain this Ātmā

“This (Brahman) is neither internal nor external consciousness, is neither gross, nor jñāna, nor ajñāna, nor is it the state between the waking and the dreaming states. It cannot be cognised by the organs, is not subject to proof, is within. He who knows that which is by Itself alone is an emancipated person.”

The Lord Brahmā said that he becomes an emancipated person. He who knows Reality is a Parivrāt. Such a Parivrāt roams about alone. Through fear, he is like a terrified deer. He will not be opposed to going anywhere. Having given up all but his body, he will live like a bee, and without considering others as foreign to himself, ever meditating upon Reality, he attains liberation in himself. Such a Parivrāt will be without delusion, without action or causing others to act, being absolved from teacher, disciple, books, etc., and having abandoned all saṃsāra. Such a Parivrāt roams about thus—without wealth, being happy, able to get wealth (if wanted), having crossed jñāna and ajñāna as well as happiness and grief, being Self-effulgence, being fit to be known by the Vedas, having known all, able to confer siddhis and remaining himself as Brahman, the Lord. Such a Parivrāt attains the supreme abode of Vishnu, from which a yogin that has gone to it does not return, and where the sun and the moon do not shine. He does not return. Such is Kaivalya. Such is the Upanishad.

S'ANDILYA-UPANISHAD

OF

ATHARVANA VEDA

CHAPTER I

OM Sāndilya questioned Atharvan thus "Please tell me about the eight angas (parts) of Yoga which is the means of attaining to Ātmā"

Atharvan replied "The eight angas of yoga are yama, niyama, āsana, prāṇāyāma, pratyāhāra, dhāraṇā, dhyāna, and samādhi. Of these, yama is of ten kinds and so is niyama. There are eight āsanas. Prāṇāyāma is of three kinds, pratyāhāra is of five kinds so also is dhāraṇā. Dhyāna is of two kinds, and samādhi is of one kind only

"Under yama (forbearance) are ten ¹ ahimsā, satya, asteya, brahmacharya, dayā, ārjaya, kshamā, dhṛti, miṭāhāra, and saucha. Of these, ahimsā is the not causing of any pain to any living being at any time through the actions of one's mind, speech, or body. Satya is the speaking of the truth that conduces to the well-being of creatures, through the actions of one's mind, speech, or body. Asteya is not coveting of another's property through the actions of one's mind, speech, or body. Brahmacharya is the refraining from sexual intercourse in all places and in all states in mind, speech or body. Dayā is kindness towards all creatures in all places. Ārjaya is the preserving of equanimity of mind, speech, or body in the performance or non-performance of the actions ordained or forbidden to be done. Kshamā is the bearing patiently of all pleasant or unpleasant things, such as praise or blow. Dhṛti is

¹ Under yama and niyama Paṭaṅjali has five kinds only

the preserving of firmness of mind during the period of gain or loss of wealth or relatives Mitāhāra is the taking of oily and sweet food, leaving one-fourth of the stomach empty Śauca is of two kinds, external and internal Of these, the external is the cleansing of the body by earth and water, the internal is the cleansing of the mind. This (the latter) is to be obtained by means of the adhyātma-vidyā (science of Self).

“ Under niyama (religious observances), are ten, viz., tapas, saṁtoshā, āstikya, dāna, Īśvarapūjana, siddhānta-sravaṇa, hriḥ, maṭi, japa, and vrata Of these tapas, is the emancipation of the body through the observances of such penances as kṛcchra, chāṇḍrāyaṇa, etc, according to rules Saṁtoshā is being satisfied with whatever comes to us of its own accord Āstikya is the belief in the merits or demerits of actions as stated in the Vedas Dāna is the giving with faith to deserving persons, money, grains, etc, earned lawfully Īśvarapūjana is the worshipping of Viṣṇu, Rudra, etc, with pure mind according to one's power Siddhānta-sravaṇa is the inquiry into the significance of Vedānta Hriḥ is the shame felt in the performance of things contrary to the rules of the Vedas and of society. Maṭi is the faith in the paths laid down by the Vedas Japa is the practising of the mantras into which one is duly initiated by his spiritual instructor, and which is not against (the rules of) the Vedas It is of two kinds—the spoken and the mental The mental is associated with contemplation by the mind The spoken is of two kinds—the loud and the low The loud pronunciation gives the reward as stated (in the Vedas) (while) the low one (gives) a reward thousand times (that) The mental (gives) a reward a crore (of times that) Vrata is the regular observance of or the refraining from the actions enjoined or prohibited by the Vedas

“ Āsanās (the postures) are (chiefly) eight, viz, svastika, gomukha, padina, vira, simha, bhadra, mukṣa, and mayūra

“ Svastika is the sitting at ease with the body erect, placing each foot between the thighs and knees of the other Gomukha is (the sitting at ease with the body erect,) placing the hollow

of the left foot under the side of the right posteriors and the hollow of the right foot under the side of the left posteriors, resembling Gomukha (cow's face) *Īpadma* is (the sitting at ease with the body erect) placing the back of each foot in the thigh of the other, the right hand grasping the right toe and the left hand the left toe This, O S'āndilya, is praised by all. *Vīra* is the sitting at ease (with the body erect), placing one foot on the thigh of the other and the other foot underneath the corresponding (opposite thigh) *Simha* is (the sitting at ease with the body erect,) pressing the right side (of the thigh) with the hollow of left heel and *vice versa*. Rest your hands on the knees, spread out the fingers, open your mouth and carefully fix your gaze on the tip of your nose. This is always praised by the yogins. *Siddha*¹ is (the sitting at ease with the body erect), pressing the perineum with the left heel and placing the heel of the right foot above the genital organ, concentrating the mind between the two eyebrows *Bhadra* is (the sitting at ease with the body erect,) pressing the two ankles of the two feet firmly together against the *Sīvinī* (*viz.*, lower part of the seed) and binding the knees firmly with the hands This is the *bhadra* which destroys all diseases and poisons *Mukṭa* is (the sitting at ease with the body erect,) pressing with the left heel the right side of the tender part of the *Sīvinī*, and with the right heel the left side of the tender part of the *Sīvinī* *Mayūra*—(lit, peacock) Rest your body upon the ground with both palms and place your elbows on the sides of the navel, lift up the head and feet and remain like a stick in the air, (like the plant balance in gymnastics). This is the *mayūra* posture which destroys all sins By these, all the diseases within the body are destroyed, all the poisons are digested Let the person who is unable to practise all these postures betake himself to any one (of these) which he may find easy and pleasant He who conquers (or gets mastery over) the postures—he conquers the three worlds A person who has the practice of *yama* and *niyama* should practise *prāṇāyāma*, by that the *nādis* become purified ”

Then S'āndilya questioned Aṭharvan thus “By what means are the *nādis* purified? How many are they in number?

¹ In the explanation one more posture is introduced

How do they arise? What vāyus (vital airs) are located in them? What are their seats? What are their functions? Whatever is worthy of being known in the body, please tell me” To that Aṭharvan replied (thus) “This body is ninety-six digits in length Prāṇa extends twelve digits beyond the body He who through the practice of yoga reduces his prāṇa within his body to make it equal to or not less than the fire in it becomes the greatest of the yogins In men, the region of fire which is triangular in form and brilliant as the molten gold is situated in the middle of the body In four-footed animals, it (fire) is quadrangular In birds, it is round In its (the region of fire’s) centre, the purifying, beneficial, and subtle flame is situate Two digits above the anus and two digits below the sexual organ is the centre of the body for men. For four-footed animals, it is the middle of the heart For birds, it is the middle of the body Nine digits from (or above) the centre of the body and four digits in length and breadth is situated an oval form In its midst is the navel In it, is situated the chakrā (viz., wheel) with twelve spokes. In the middle of the chakra, the jīva (Ātmā) wanders, driven by its good and bad deeds As a spider flies to and fro within a web of fine threads, so prāṇa moves about here In this body, the jīva rides upon prāṇa Lying in the middle of the navel and above it, is the seat of kundalinī The kundalinī śakti is of the form of eight prakṛtis (matter) and coils itself eight ways or (times) The movement of vāyus (vital airs) cheeks duly the food and drink all round by the side of skandha¹ It closes by its head (the opening of) the brahmarandhra, and during the time of (the practice of) yoga is awakened by the fire (in the apāna), then it shines with great brilliancy in the ākāś of the heart in the shape of wisdom Depending upon kundalinī which is situated in the centre, there are fourteen principal nādis (viz.,) Idā, Pingalā, Sushumnā, Sarasvatī, Vārunī, Pūshā, Hastīhivā, Yasasvinī, Viśvodharī, Kuhūh, Sāṅkhinī, Payasvinī, Alambusū, and Gāndhārī Of them, Sushumnā is said to be the

¹ In Varāha Upanishad and later on, this is named “Kandha” Herein is described the web of life

sustainer of the universe and the path of salvation Situated at the back of the anus, it is attached to the spinal column and extends to the brahmarandhra of the head and is invisible and subtle and is vaishnavī (or has the sakti force of Viṣṇu). On the left of Sushumnā is situated Idā, and on the right is Pingalā The moon moves in Idā and the sun in Pingalā. The moon is of the nature of t̥amas and the sun of rajas The poison share is of the sun and the nectar of the moon They both direct (or indicate) time and Sushumnā is the enjoyer (or consumer) of time To the back and on the side of Sushumnā are situate Sarasvatī and Kuḥūh respectively. Between Yaśasvinī and Kuḥūh stands Vārunī. Between Pūshā and Sarasvatī lies Payasvinī¹ Between Gāndhārī and Sarasvatī is situated Yaśasvinī.² In the centre of the navel is Alambusā. In front of Sushumnā there is Kuḥūh, which proceeds as far as the genital organ. Above and below kuṇḍalinī is situated Vārunī, which proceeds everywhere Yaśasvinī which is beautiful (or belonging to the moon), proceeds to the great toes. Pingalā goes upwards to the right nostril. Payasvinī goes to right ear Sarasvatī goes to the upper part or the tongue and Sāṅkhinī to the left ear, (while) Gāndhārī goes from the back of Idā to the left eye Alambusā goes upwards and downwards from the root of the anus From these fourteen nāḍis, other (minor) nāḍis spring; from them springing others, and from them springing others, so it should be known As the leaf of the aśvattha tree (*figus religiosa*) etc., is covered with minute fibres so also is this body permeated with nāḍis

“Prāna, Apāna, Samāna, Udāna, Vyāna, Nāga, Kūrma, Krkara, Devadaṭṭa, and Dhanañjaya—these ten vāyus (vital airs) move in all the nāḍis Prāna moves in the nostrils, the throat, the navel, the two great toes and the lower and the upper parts of kuṇḍalinī Vyāna moves in the ear, the eye, the loins, the ankles, the nose, the throat and the buttocks Apāna moves in the anus, the genitals, the thighs, the knees the stomach, the seeds, the loins, the calves, the navel, and the

¹ This should be perhaps—between Pingalā and Payasvinī is Pūshā

² Yaśasvinī should be “Sāṅkhinī”

seat of the anus of fire Udāna lives in all the joints and also in the hands and legs Samāna lives, permeating in all parts of the body. Along with the fire in the body, it causes the food and drink taken in, to spread in the body. It moves in the seventy-two thousand nādis and pervades all over the body along with the fire. The five vāyus beginning with Nāga go towards the skin, the bones, etc. The Prāna which is in the navel separates the food and drink which is there and brings about the rasas (juices) and others.² Placing the water above the fire and the food above (or in) the water, it goes to the Apāna and along with it, fans up the fire in the centre of the body. The fire thus fanned up by the Apāna gradually increases in brightness in the middle of the body. Then it causes through its flames the water which is brought in the bowels by the Prāna to grow hot. The fire with the water causes the food and condiments, which are placed above, to be boiled to a proper degree. Then Prāna separates these into sweat, urine, water, blood, semen, the faeces and the like. And along with the Samāna, it takes the juice (or essence) to all the nādis and moves in the body in the shape of breath. The vāyus excrete the urine, the faeces, etc., through the nine openings in the body which are connected with the outside air. The functions of Prāna are inspiration, expiration, and cough. Those of Apāna are the excretion of the faeces and the urine. Those of Vyāna are (such actions as) giving and taking. Those of Udāna are keeping the body straight, etc. Those of Samāna are nourishing the body. Those of Nāga are vomiting, etc.: of Kūrma, the movement of the eyelids: of Kṛkara, the causing of hunger, etc., of Devadatta, idleness etc., and Dhanañjaya, phlegm.

"Having thus acquired a thorough knowledge of the seat of the nādis and of the vāyus with their functions, one should begin with the purification of the nādis. A person possessed of yama and niyama, avoiding all company, having finished his course of study, delighting in truth and virtue, having overcome (his) anger, being engaged in the service of his spiritual instructor and having been obedient to his parents

² Here the process of digestion of food is described.

and well instructed in all the religious practices and the knowledge of his order of life, should go to a sacred grove abounding in fruits, roots, and water. There he should select a pleasant spot always resounding with the chanting of the Vedas, frequented by the knowers of Brahman that persevere in the duties of their orders of life and filled with fruits, roots, flowers, and water. (Else) either in a temple or on the banks of a river or in a village or in a town, he should build a beautiful monastery. It should be neither too long nor too high, should have a small door, should be besmeared well with cow-dung and should have every sort of protection¹. There listening to the exposition of vedānta, he should begin to practise yoga. In the beginning having worshipped Vināyaka² (Ganeśa), he should salute his Ishta-Devatā (tutelary deity) and sitting in any of the above-mentioned postures on a soft seat, facing either the east or the north and having conquered them, the learned man keeping his head and neck erect and fixing his gaze on the tip of his nose, should see the sphere of the moon between his eyebrows and drink the nectar (flowing therefrom through his eyes). Inhaling the air through Idā³ for the space of twelve mātrās,⁴ he should contemplate on the sphere of fire⁵ situated in the belly as surrounded with flames and having as its seed ॠ (ra), then he should exhale it through Pingalā. Again inhaling it through Pingalā³ and retaining it (within), he should exhale it through Idā. For the period of twenty-eight months,⁶ he should practise six times at every sitting through the three sandhyās (morning, noon, and evening).

¹ Both by physical protection and that of mantras to scare away evil spirits

² He is the son of Śiva, having an elephant's face symbolical of wisdom. He is considered as the remover of all obstacles, and as such is he invoked and worshipped in the beginning of every religious rite.

³ Idā and Pingalā are the two nādis upon which our breaths alternate from the left nostril to the right and *vice versa* and between which is Sushumnā. Hence these two terms are applied to and mean the left and right nostrils.

⁴ According to Yogatattva-Upanishad, a mātrā is the time occupied in circling the knee once with the palm of the hand and filiping the fingers.

⁵ According to Varāha-Upanishad the seat of fire is the mūlādhāra (sacral plexus).

⁶ The original is not clear. It says, "For the space of 3, 4, 3, 4, 7, 3 and 4 months" which when added becomes 28.

and during the intervals. By this, the nādis become purified. Then the body becomes light and bright, the (gastric) fire is increased (within) and there is the manifestation of nāda (internal sound).

"Prāṇāyāma is said to be the union of Prāṇa and Apāna. It is of three kinds—expiration, inspiration, and cessation. They are associated with the letters of the (Samskṛt) alphabet¹ (for the right performance of prāṇāyāma). Therefore Praṇava (Om) only is said to be Prāṇāyāma. Sitting in the padma posture, the person should meditate that there is at the tip of his nose Gāyatrī,² a girl of red complexion surrounded by the numberless rays of the image of the moon and mounted on a hamsa (swan) and having a mace in her hand. She is the visible symbol of the letter A. The letter U has as its visible symbol Sāvitrī,³ a young woman of white colour having a disk in her hand and riding on a garuda (eagle). The letter M has as its visible symbol Sarasvatī,⁴ an aged woman of black colour riding on a bull, having a trident in her hand. He should meditate that the single letter—the supreme light—the praṇava (Om)—is the origin or source of these three letters A, U, and M. Drawing up the air through Īdā for the space of sixteen mātrās, he should meditate on the letter A during that time; retaining the inspired air for the space of sixty-four mātrās, he should meditate on the letter U during the time; he should then exhale the inspired air for the space of thirty-two mātrās, meditating on the letter M during that time. He should practise this in the above order over and over again.

"Then having become firm in the posture and preserved perfect self-control, the yogin should, in order to clear away the impurities of the Sushumnā, sit in the padmāsana (padma posture), and having inhaled the air through the left nostril, should retain it as long as he can and should exhale it through the right. Then drawing it again through the right and having retained it, he should exhale it through the left in the order

¹ According to the Manu Smṛiti, Praṇava is performed through the "Om" of Samskṛt and the "Om" of the Vedas corresponding to inspiration, etc.

² These are the Gāyatrī, Sāvitrī, and Sarasvatī, representing Sakta and being the wives of Brahmā, Viṣṇu, and Śiva.

that he should draw it through the same nostril by which he exhaled it before and retained it. In this context, occur (to memory) the following verses "In the beginning having inhaled the breath (Prāna) through the left nostril, according to the rule, he should exhale it through the other, then having inhaled the air through the right nostril, should retain it and exhale it through the other." To those who practise according to these rules through the right and left nostrils, the nādis become purified within three months. He should practise cessation of breath at sunrise, in the midday, at sunset and at midnight slowly till eighty (times a day) for four weeks. In the early stages, perspiration is produced, in the middle stage the tremor of the body, and in the last stage levitation in the air. These (results) ensue out of the repression of the breath, while sitting in the padma posture. When perspiration arises with effort, he should rub his body well. By this, the body becomes firm and light. In the early course of his practice, food with milk and ghee is excellent. One sticking to this rule becomes firm in his practice and gets no ṭāpa (or burning sensation in the body). As lions, elephants and tigers are gradually tamed, so also the breath, when rightly managed (comes under control), else it kills the practitioner.¹

"He should (as far as is consistent with his health and safety) properly exhale it, properly inhale it or retain it properly. Thus (only) will he attain success. By thus retaining the breath in an approved manner and by the purification of the nādis, the brightening of the (gastric) fire, the hearing distinctly of (spiritual) sounds and (good) health result. When the nervous centres have become purified through the regular practice of Prānāyāma, the air easily forces its way up through the mouth of the Sushumnā which is in the middle. By the contraction of the muscles of the neck and by the contraction of the one below (*viz.*) Apāna, the Prāna (breath) goes into the Sushumnā which is in the middle from the west nādi.² Drawing

¹ This passage clearly indicates the dreadful consequences of the performance of Prānāyāma rashly and without a guru.

² As already pointed out, the Sushumnā nādi is between Idā and Pingalā. If Prāna which alternates ordinarily between Idā and Pingalā is restrained by long

up the Apāna and forcing down the Prāna from the throat, the yogin free from old age becomes a youth of sixteen

“Seated in a pleasant posture and drawing up the air through the right nostril and retaining it inside from the top of the hair to the toe nails, he should exhale it through the same nostril. Through it, the brain becomes purified and the diseases in the air *nādis*¹ are destroyed. Drawing up the air through the nostrils with noise (so as to fill the space) from the heart to the neck, and having retained it (within) as long as possible, he should exhale it through the nose. Through this, hunger, thirst, idleness and sleep do not arise

“Taking in the air through the mouth (wide open) and having retained it as long as possible, he should expel it through the nose. Through this, (such diseases as) *gulma*, *pleeha* (both being splenetic diseases), bile and fever as also hunger, etc, are destroyed.

“Now we shall proceed to *kumbhaka* (restraint of breath). It is of two kinds—*sahita* and *kevala*. That which is coupled with expiration and inspiration is called *sahita*. That which is devoid of these is called *kevala* (alone). Until you become perfect in *kevala*, practise *sahita*. To one who has mastered *kevala*, there is nothing unattainable in the three worlds. By *kevala*-restraint of breath, the knowledge of *kuṇḍalinī* arises. Then he becomes lean in body, serene in face and clear-eyed, hears the (spiritual) sounds distinctly, becomes free from all diseases and conquers his (*bindu*) seminal fluid.² his gastric fire being increased.

“Centring one's mind on an inward object whilst his eyes are looking outside without the shutting and opening of his eyelids, has been called *Vaishna-īmudrā*. This is kept hidden in all the

kumbhaka, taken in along with the soul, is attendant will enter the *Susumnā* (*central nadi*) at one of the three places where it finds space for entrance through such restraint of breath and in the next, from the *Sarasa*³ *nadi*, on the west. After such entry it is that the yogin becomes dead to the world, being in the state called *trance*.

¹ Through such and other the coils of *Prāṇa* and *Apāna* prescribed in this passage and the subsequent ones, chronic diseases that defy European doctors will be rooted out.

² He becomes an *Urdhva-retas*—his vital energy goes up.

tāntūic works. With his mind and breath absorbed in an internal object, the yogin, though he does not really see the objects outside and under him, still (appears to) see them with eyes in which the pupils are motionless. This is called Khecharīmudrā. It has as its sphere of extension one object and is very beneficial. (Then) the real seat of Vishnu, which is void and non-void, dawns on him. With eyes half closed and with a firm mind, fixing his eyes on the tip of his nose and becoming absorbed in the sun and moon, he after remaining thus unshaken (becomes conscious of) the thing which is of the form of light, which is free from all externals, which is resplendent, which is the supreme truth and which is beyond. O Sāndilya, know this to be Tat (That). Merging the sound in the light and elevating the brows a little, this is of the way of (or is a part of) the former practice. This brings about the state of Unmanī which causes the destruction of the mind. Therefore he should practise the Khecharīmudrā. Then he attains to the state of Unmanī and falls into the yoga sleep (trance). To one who obtains this yoga sleep, time does not exist. Placing the mind in the midst of śakti and śakti¹ in the midst of the mind and looking on the mind with the mind, O Sāndilya be happy. Place the Ātmā in the midst of ākāś' and ākāś' in the midst of Ātmā, and having reduced everything to ākāś', do not think of anything else. You should not (then) entertain thoughts, either external or internal. Abandoning all thoughts, become abstract thought itself. As camphor in fire and salt in water become absorbed, so also the mind becomes absorbed in the Tatṭva (Truth). What is termed manas (mind) is the knowledge of everything that is known and its clear apprehension. When the knowledge and the object cognised are lost alike, there is no second path (or that is the only path). By its giving up all cognition of objects, it (the mind) is absorbed and when the mind is absorbed, kaivalya (isolation) alone remains.

“For the destruction of the chitta, there are two ways—yoga and jñāna. O prince of sages! yoga is the (forcible)

¹ There are six centres of energy in the body (mūlādhāra, sacral plexus, etc.), which are presided over by six śaktis (goddesses of energy).

repression of the modifications of the mind, and jñāna is the thorough inquiry into them. When the modifications of the mind are repressed, it (the mind) verily obtains peace. Just as the actions of the people cease with the stopping of the fluctuations of the sun (*viz.*, with sunset), so when the fluctuations of the mind cease, this cycle of births and deaths comes to an end. (Then) the fluctuations of prāṇa are prevented, when one has no longing for this mundane existence or when he has gratified his desires therein—through the study of religious books, the company of good men, indifference (to enjoyments), practice and yoga or long contemplation with intentness on any desired (higher) object or through practising one truth firmly.

“By the repression of the breath through inhalation, etc., by continual practice therein which does not cause fatigue, and by meditating in a secluded place, the fluctuations of the mind are arrested. Through the right realisation of the true nature of the sound which is at the extreme end of the pronunciation of the syllable Om (*viz.*, Ardhamātrā), and when sushupti (dreamless sleeping state) is rightly cognised through consciousness, the fluctuations of prāṇa are repressed. When the passage at the root of the palate which is like the bell, *viz.*, uvula, is closed by the tongue with effort and when the breath goes up through (the upper hole), then the fluctuations of prāṇa are stopped. When the consciousness (*samvit*) is merged in prāṇa, and when through practice the prāṇa goes through the upper hole into the dvādaśāṅga¹ (the twelfth centre) above the palate, then the fluctuations of prāṇa are stopped. When the eye of consciousness (*viz.*, the spiritual or third eye) becomes calm and clear so as to be able to distinctly see in the transparent Ākāśa at a distance of twelve digits from the tip of his nose, then the fluctuations of prāṇa are stopped. When the thoughts arising in the mind are bound up in the calm contemplation of the world of tāraka (star or eye) between one's eyebrows and are (thus) destroyed, then the fluctuations cease. When the knowledge which is of the form of the knowable,

¹ This twelfth centre is identified by some with the pituitary body in the head, there being six centres in the brain besides the six below the brain.

which is beneficent and which is untouched by any modifications arises in one and is known as OM only and no other, then the fluctuations of prāṇa cease. By the contemplation for a long time of the ākāś which is in the heart, and by the contemplation of the mind free from vāsānās, then the fluctuations of prāṇa cease. By these methods and various others suggested by (one's) thought and by means of the contact of the many (spiritual) guides, the fluctuations cease.

“ Having by contraction opened the door of kundalinī, one should force open the door of moksha. Closing with her mouth the door through which one ought to go, the kundalinī sleeps spiral in form and coiled up like a serpent. He who causes this kundalinī to move—he is an emancipated person. If this kundalinī were to sleep in the upper part of the neck of any yogin, it goes towards his emancipation. (If it were to sleep) in the lower part (of the body), it is for the bondage of the ignorant. Leaving the two nādis, Idā and the other (Pingalā), it (prāṇa) should move in the Sushumnā. That is the supreme seat of Viṣṇu. One should practise control of breath with the concentration of the mind. The mind should not be allowed by a clever man to rest on any other thing. One should not worship Viṣṇu during the day alone. One should not worship Viṣṇu during the night alone, but should always worship Him, and should not worship Him merely during day and night. The wisdom-producing opening (near uvula) has five passages. O Sāṅdilya this is the khecharīmudrā, practise it. With one who sits in the khecharīmudrā, the vāyu which was flowing before through the left and right nādis now flows through the middle one (Sushumna). There is no doubt about it. You should swallow the air through the void (Sushumnā) between Idā and Pingalā. In that place is khecharīmudrā situated, and that is the seat of Truth. Again that is khecharīmudrā which is situated in the ākāśa-chakra (in the head) in the mālamba (supportless) seat between the sun and moon (i.e., Idā and Pingalā). When the tongue has been lengthened to the length of a kalā (digit) by the incision (of the frenum lingum) and by rubbing and milking it (i.e., the tongue), fix the gaze between the two eyebrows and close the hole in the skull with

the tongue reversed This is khecharīmudrā When the tongue and the chitta (mind) both move in the ākāś (khecharī), then the person with his tongue raised up becomes immortal Firmly pressing the yoni (perineum) by the left heel, stretching out the right leg, grasping the feet with both hands and inhaling the air through the nostrils, practise kantha-bandha,¹ retaining the air upwards By that, all afflictions are destroyed, then poison is digested as if it were nectar Asthma, splenetic disease, the turning up of the anus and the numbness of the skin are removed This is the means of conquering prāna and destroying death Pressing the yoni by the left heel, place the other foot over the left thigh inhale the air, rest the chin on the chest, contract the yoni and contemplate, (as far as possible), your Ātmā as situated within your mind Thus is the direct perception (of truth) attained

“Inhaling the prāna from outside and filling the stomach with it, centre the prāna with the mind in the middle of the navel, at the tip of the nose and at the toes during the sandhyās (sunset and sunrise) or at all times (Thus) the yogin is freed from all diseases and fatigue By centring his prāna at the tip of his nose, he obtains mastery over the element of air, by centring it at the middle of his navel, all diseases are destroyed, by centring it at the toes, his body becomes light He who drinks the air (drawn) through the tongue destroys fatigue, thirst and diseases He who drinks the air with his mouth during the two sandhyās and the last two hours of the night, within three months the auspicious Sarasvatī (goddess of speech) is present in his vāk (speech) i.e., (he becomes eloquent and learned in his speech) In six months, he is free from all diseases Drawing the air by the tongue, retain the air at the root of the tongue The wise man thus drinking nectar enjoys all prosperity Fixing the Ātmā in the Ātmā itself in the middle of the eyebrows, (having inhaled) through Idā and breaking through that (centre) thirty times, even a sick man is freed from disease He who draws the air through the nādis and retains it for twenty-four minutes in the navel and in

¹ Lit., binding the air up the throat.

the sides of the stomach becomes freed from disease. He who for the space of a month during the three sandhyās (sunset, sunrise, and midnight or noon) draws the air through the tongue, pierces thirty times and retains his breath in the middle of his navel, becomes freed from all fevers and poisons. He who retains the prāna together with the mind at the tip of his nose even for the space of a muhūrta (forty-eight minutes), destroys all sins that were committed by him during one hundred births.

“Through the samyama of tīra (Om), he knows all things. By retaining the mind at the tip of his nose, he acquires a knowledge of Indra-world,¹ below that, he acquires a knowledge of Agni-(fire) world.¹ Through the samyama of chitta in the eye, he gets a knowledge of all worlds in the ear, a knowledge of Yama-(the god of death) world¹ in the sides of the ear, a knowledge of Nṛṛṭi-world¹ in the back of it (the ear), a knowledge of Varuna-world¹ in the left ear, a knowledge of Vāyu-world¹ in the throat, a knowledge of Soma-(moon) world¹ in the left eye, a knowledge of Śiva-world¹ in the head, a knowledge of Brahmā-world¹ in the soles of the feet, a knowledge of Aṭala world.² in the feet, a knowledge of Vitala world in the ankles, a knowledge of Niṭala (rather Sutala) world in the calves, a knowledge of Sutala (rather Talātāla world) in the knees, a knowledge of Mahātala world in the thighs, a knowledge of Rasātala world in the loins, a knowledge of Talātala (rather Pātāla) world in the navel, a knowledge of Bhūloka (earth-world) in the stomach, a knowledge of Bhuvar (world) in the heart, a knowledge of Suvar (world) in the place above the heart, a knowledge of Mahar world in the throat, a knowledge of Jana world in the middle of the brows, a knowledge of Tapa world in the head, a knowledge of Satya world.

“By conquering dharma and adharma, one knows the past and the future. By centring it on the sound of every creature, a knowledge of the cry (or language) of the

¹ These correspond severally to the several directions and the devatās presiding over them, corresponding respectively to east, south east, south, south-west, west, north-west, north, and north east.

² The fourteen worlds, lokas and talas are referred to the order in talas seems to be wrong, Talātala should be in the middle.

animal is produced By centring it on the sañchita-karma (past karma yet to be enjoyed), a knowledge of one's previous births arises in him By centring it on the mind of another, a knowledge of the mind (or thoughts) of others is induced By centring it on the kāya-rūpa (or form of the body), other forms are seen By fixing it on the bala (strength), the strength of persons like Hanūmān is obtained By fixing it on the sun, a knowledge of the worlds arises By fixing it on the moon, a knowledge of the constellation is produced By fixing it on the Dhruva (Polar star) a perception of its motion is induced By fixing it on his own (Self), one acquires the knowledge of Purusha, on the navel, he attains a knowledge of the kāya-vyūha (mystical arrangement of all the particles of the body so as to enable a person to wear out his whole karma in one life) on the well of the throat, freedom from hunger and thirst arises on the Kūrma nāḍī (which is situated in the well of the throat), a firmness (of concentration) takes place By fixing it on the ṭārā (pupil of the eye), he obtains the sight of the siddhas (spiritual personages) By conquering the ākāś in the body, he is able to soar in the ākāś (in short) by centring the mind in any place, he conquers the siddhis appertaining to that place

“Then comes pratyāhāra, which is of five kinds It is the drawing away of the organs from attaching themselves to the objects of senses Contemplating upon everything that one sees as Ātmā is pratyāhāra Renouncing the fruits of one's daily actions is pratyāhāra Turning away from all objects of sense is pratyāhāra Dhāraṇā in the eighteen important places (mentioned below) is pratyāhāra, (*viz* ,) the feet, the toes, the ankles, the calves, the knees, the thighs, the anus, the penis, the navel, the heart, the well of the throat, the palate, the nose, the eyes, the middle of the brows, the forehead, and the head in ascending and descending orders

“Then (comes) dhāraṇā It is of three kinds, (*viz* ,) fixing the mind in the Ātmā, bringing the external ākāś into the ākāś of the heart and contemplating the five mūrtis (forms of devatās) in the five elements—earth, āpas, fire, vāyu, and ākāś.

“Then comes dhyāna It is of two kinds, saguna (with guṇas or quality) and nirguna (without quality) Saguna is the meditation of a mūṛti Nirguna is on the reality of Self

“Samādhi is the union of the Jīvātmā (individual self) and the Paramātmā (higher self) without the threefold state, (*viz*, the knower, the known, and the knowledge) It is of the nature of extreme bliss and pure consciousness

“Thus ends the first chapter of Sāṇḍilya Upanishad”

CHAPTER II

Then the Brahmarshi Sāṇḍilya not obtaining the knowledge of Brahman in the four Vedas, approached the Lord Aṭharvan and asked him “What is it? Teach me the science of Brahman by which I shall obtain that which is most excellent”

Atharvan replied “O Sāṇḍilya, Brahman is satya, vijñāna and ananta in which all this (world) is interwoven, warp-wise and woof-wise, from which all originated and into which all are absorbed, and which being known makes everything else known It is without hands and feet, without eyes and ears, without tongue or without body, and is unreachable and undefinable From which, vāk (speech) and mind return, being unable to obtain (or reach) It It is to be cognised by jñāna and yoga¹ From which, prajñā of old sprang That which is one and non-dual, that which pervades everything like ākāś, which is extremely subtle, without a blemish, actionless, sat (be-ness) only, the essence of the bliss of consciousness, beneficent, calm and immortal and which is beyond That is Brahman Thou art That Know That by wisdom He who is the one, the shining, the giver of the power of Ātmā, the omniscient, the lord of all, and the inner soul of all beings, who lives in all beings, who is hidden in all beings and the source of all beings, who is reachable only through yoga and who creates, supports and destroys everything—He is Ātmā Know the several worlds in the Ātmā Do not grieve, O knower of Ātmā, thou shalt reach the end of pains”

¹ Some texts leave the words “and yoga”.

CHAPTER III

Then Sāṅdilya questioned Aṭharvan thus "From the Brahman that is Om, imperishable, actionless, beneficial, sat (be-ness) only and supreme, how did this universe arise? How does it exist in It? And how is it absorbed in It? Please solve me this doubt."

Atharvan replied The Supreme Brahman, the Truth, is the imperishable and the actionless Then from the formless Brahman, three forms (or aspects) arose, (*viz.*) nishkalā (partless), sakalā (with parts), and sakalā-nishkalā (with and without parts). That which is satya, vijñāna and ānanda, That which is actionless, without any impurity, omnipresent, extremely subtle, having faces in every direction, undefinable and immortal—that is His nishkalā aspect Mahesvara (the great Lord) who is black and yellow rules, with avidyā, mūlaprakṛti or māyā that is red, white, and black, and that is co-existent with Him This is his sakalā-nishkalā aspect Then the Lord desired (or willed) by his spiritual wisdom (thus) May I become many?, may I bring forth? Then from this Person who was contemplating and whose desires are fulfilled, three letters sprang up Three vyāhṛtis,¹ the three-footed Gāyatrī,² the three Vedas, the three devas, the three varnas (colours or castes) and the three fires sprang That Supreme Lord who is endowed with all kinds of wealth, who is all pervading, who is situated in the hearts of all beings, who is the Lord of māyā and whose form is māyā—He is Brahmā He is Vishnu He is Rudra He is Indra He is all the devas He is all the bhūtas (elements or beings) He only is before He only is behind He only is on our left He only is on our right He only is below . He only is above He only is the all That form of him as Daṭṭatreya,³ who sports with his Śakti, who is kind to his devotees, who is brilliant as fire, resembling the petals or a red lotus and is of four hands, who is mild and shines sinlessly—this is His sakalā form "

¹ —² These relate to the Gāyatrī mantras depending upon sound

³ According to Bhāgavata, he is one of the minor incarnations of Vishnu

Then Sāndilya questioned Atharvan, "O Lord, that which is Saṭ only and the essence of the bliss of consciousness—why is He called Parabrahman?"

Atharvan replied "Because He increases *brhat* and causes to increase everything (*brhanti*), so he is called Parabrahman. Why is He called Ātmā? Since He obtains (*āpnoti*) everything, since He takes back everything and since He is everything, so he is called Ātmā. Why is He called Mahesvara (the great Lord)? Since by the sound of the words Mahat-Īśa (the great Lord) and by His own power, the great Lord governs everything. Why is He called Daṭṭātreyā? Because the Lord being extremely pleased with Atri (Rshi) who was performing a most difficult penance and who had expressed his desire to see Him who is light itself, offered Himself (daṭṭa) as their son, and because the woman Anasūyā was his mother and Atri was his father. Therefore he who knows the (secret) meaning knows everything. He who always contemplates on the supreme that It is himself becomes a knower of Brahman. Here these ślokas (stanzas) occur (to memory) 'He who contemplates always the Lord of Lords and the ancient thus—as Daṭṭātreyā, the beneficent, the calm, of the colour of sapphire, one who delights in his own māyā and the Lord who has shaken off everything, as naked and as one whose whole body is besmeared with the holy ashes, who has matted hair, who is the Lord of all, who has four arms, who is bliss in appearance, whose eyes are like full-blown lotus, who is the store of jñāna and yoga, who is the spiritual instructor of all the worlds and who is dear to all the yogins, and one who is merciful towards His devotees, who is the witness of all and who is worshipped by all the siddhas is freed from all sins and will attain (the Spirit)'

"Om Saṭyam (truth) Thus ends the Upanishad"

YOGATATVA-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

I SHALL now describe yoga-tattva (yoga-truth) for the benefit of yogins who are freed from all sins through the hearing and the studying of it. The supreme Purusha called Viṣṇu, who is the great yogin, the great being and the great ṭapasvin, is seen as a lamp in the path of the truth. The Grandfather (Brahmā) having saluted the Lord of the universe (Viṣṇu) and having paid Him due respects, asked Him (thus) "Pray, explain to us the truth of yoga which includes in it the eight subservients." To which Hrshīkeśa (the Lord of the senses or Viṣṇu) replied thus "Listen. I shall explain its truth. All souls are immersed in happiness and sorrow through the snare of māyā. Kaivalya, the supreme seat, is the path which gives them emancipation, which rends asunder the snare of māyā, which is the destroyer of birth, old age and disease and which enables one to overcome death. There are no other paths to salvation. Those who go round the net of Śāstras are deluded by that knowledge. It is impossible even for the Devas to describe that indescribable state. How can that which is self-shining be illuminated by the Śāstras? That only which is without parts and stains and which is quiescent beyond all and free from decay becomes the jīva (self) on account of the results of past virtues and sins. How did that which is the seat of Paramātmā, is eternal, and above the state of all existing things and is of the form of wisdom and without stains attain the state of jīva? A bubble arose in it as in water and in this (bubble) arose

ahaṅkāra To it arose a ball (of body) made of the five (elements) and bound by dhātus Know that to be jīva which is associated with happiness and misery and hence is the term jīva applied to Paramātmā which is pure That jīva is considered to be the kevala (alone) which is freed from the stains of passion, anger, fear, delusion, greed, pride, lust, birth, death, miserliness, swoon, giddiness, hunger, thirst, ambition, shame, fright, heart-burning, grief and gladness

“So I shall tell you the means of destroying (these) sins How could jñāna capable of giving moksha arise certainly without yoga? And even yoga becomes powerless in (securing) moksha when it is devoid of jñāna So the aspirant after emancipation should practise (firmly) both yoga and jñāna The cycle of births and deaths comes only through ajñāna and perishes only through jñāna. Jñāna alone was originally It should be known as the only means (of salvation) That is jñāna through which one cognises (in himself) the real nature of kaivalya as the supreme seat, the stainless, the partless, and of the nature of Sachchidānanda without birth, existence and death and without motion and jñāna

“Now I shall proceed to describe yoga to you Yoga is divided into many kinds on account of its actions (*viz.*) Mantrayoga, Layayoga, Hathayoga, and Rājayoga There are four states common to all these (*viz.*) Ārambha, Ghata, Pañchaya, and Nishpaṭti O Brahman, I shall describe these to you Listen attentively. One should practise the Mantra along with its mātṛikās (proper intonations of the sounds) and others for a period of twelve years, then he gradually obtains wisdom along with the siddhis, (such as) animā, etc Persons of weak intellect who are the least qualified for yoga practise this The (second) Laya-yoga tends towards the absorption of the chitta and is described in myriads of ways, (one of which is)—one should contemplate upon the Lord who is without parts (even) while walking, sitting, sleeping, or eating This is called Laya-yoga Now hear (the description of) Hatha-yoga This yoga is said to possess (the following) eight subservients, yama (forbearance), niyama (religious observance), āsana

(posture), prāṇāyāma (suppression of breath), pratyāhāra (subjugation of the senses), dhāraṇā (concentration), dhyāna, the contemplation on Hari in the middle of the eyebrows and samādhi that is the state of equality. Mahāmudrā, Mahā-bandha and Khecharī, Jālandhara, Uddiyāna, and Mūla-bandha, uttering without intermission Pranava (Om) for a long time, and hearing the exposition of the supreme truths, Vajrolī, Amarolī and Sahajolī, which form a triad—all these separately I shall give a true description of O four-faced one (Brahmā), among (the duties of) yama moderate eating—and not others—forms the principal factor, and non-injury is most important in niyama (The chief postures are) four (*viz* ,) Siddha, Padma, Simha and Bhadra During the early stages of practice, the following obstacles take place, O four-faced one, (*viz* ,) laziness, idle talk, association with bad characters, acquisition of mantras, etc, playing with metals (alchemy) and woman, etc, and mirage A wise man having found out these should abandon them by the force of his virtues Then assuming Padma posture, he should practise prāṇāyāma He should erect a beautiful monastery with a very small opening and with no crevices It should be well pasted with cow-dung or with white cement It should be carefully freed from bugs, mosquitoes and lice It should be swept well every day with a broom It should be perfumed with good odours, and fragrant resins should burn in it Having taken his seat neither too high nor too low on a cloth, deerskin and kuśa grass spread, one over the other, the wise man should assume the Padma posture and keeping his body erect and his hands folded in respect, should salute his tutelary deity. Then closing the right nostril with his right thumb, he should gradually draw in the air through the left nostril Having restrained it as long as possible, he should again expel it through the right nostril slowly and not very fast Then filling the stomach through the right nostril, he should retain it as long as he can and then expel it through the left nostril Drawing the air through that nostril by which he expels, he should continue this in uninterrupted succession The time taken in making a round of the knee with the palm of the

hand, neither very slowly nor very rapidly, and snapping the fingers once is called a mātrā. Drawing the air through the left nostril for about sixteen mātrās and having retained it (within) for about sixty-four mātrās, one should expel it again through the right nostril for about thirty-two mātrās. Again fill the right nostril as before (and continue the rest). Practise cessation of breath four times daily (*viz.*) at sunrise, noon, sunset and midnight, till eighty (times are reached). By a continual practice for about three months, the purification of the nādis takes place. When the nādis have become purified, certain external signs appear on the body of the yogin. I shall proceed to describe them. (They are) lightness of the body, brilliancy of complexion, increase of the gastric fire, leanness of the body, and along with these, absence of restlessness in the body. The proficient in yoga should abandon the food detrimental to the practice of yoga. He should give up salt, mustard, things sour, hot, pungent, or bitter, vegetables, asafoetida, etc., worship of fire, women, walking, bathing at sunrise, emaciation of the body by fasts, etc. During the early stages of practice, food of milk and ghee is ordained, also food consisting of wheat, green pulse and red rice are said to favour the progress. Then he will be able to retain his breath as long as he likes. By thus retaining the breath as long as he likes, kevala kumbhaka (cessation of breath without inspiration and expiration) is attained. When kevala kumbhaka is attained by one, and thus expiration and inspiration are dispensed with, there is nothing unattainable in the three worlds to him. In the commencement (of his practice), sweat is given out, he should wipe it off. Even after that, owing to the retaining of the breath, the person practising it gets phlegm. Then by an increased practice of dhāraṇā, sweat arises. As a frog moves by leaps, so the yogin sitting in the Padma posture moves on the earth. With a (further) increased practice, he is able to rise from the ground. He, while seated in Padma posture, levitates. There arises to him the power to perform extraordinary feats. He does (or should) not disclose to others his feats of great powers (in the path). Any pain small or

great, does not affect the yogin. Then excretions and sleep are diminished, tears, rheum in the eye, salivary flow, sweat and bad smell in the mouth do not arise in him. With a still further practice, he acquires great strength by which he attains Bhūchara siddhi, which enables him to bring under his control all the creatures that tread this earth, tigers, śarabhas,¹ elephants, wild bulls or lions die on being struck by the palm of the yogin. He becomes as beautiful as the god of love himself. All females being taken up with the beauty of his person will desire to have intercourse with him. If he so keeps connection, his virility will be lost; so abandoning all copulation with women, he should continue his practice with great assiduity. By the preservation of the semen, a good odour pervades the body of the yogin. Then sitting in a secluded place, he should repeat Pranava (Om) with three pluṭa-mātrās (or prolonged intonation) for the destruction of his former sins. The manṭra, Pranava (Om) destroys all obstacles and all sins. By practising thus he attains the ārambha (beginning or first) state.

“Then follows the ghata (second state)—one which is acquired by constantly practising suppression of breath. When a perfect union takes place between prāna and apāna, manas and buddhi, or jīvātma and Paramātmā without opposition, it is called the ghata state. I shall describe its signs. He may now practise only for about one-fourth of the period prescribed for practice before. By day and evening, let him practise only for a yāma (3 hours). Let him practise kevala kumbhaka once a day. Drawing away completely the organs from the objects of sense during cessation of breath is called pratyāhāra. Whatever he sees with his eyes, let him consider as Ātmā. Whatever he hears with his ears let him consider as Ātmā. Whatever he smells with his nose let him consider as Ātmā. Whatever he tastes with his tongue let him consider as Ātmā. Whatever the yogin touches with his skin let him consider as Ātmā. The yogin should thus unwearied gratify his organs of sense for a period of one yāma every day with great effort. Then various wonderful powers are attained by the yogin, such as clairvoyance,

¹ An animal said to have eight legs and to be stronger than lion

clairaudience, ability to transport himself to great distances within a moment, great power of speech, ability to take any form, ability to become invisible, and the transmutation of iron into gold when the former is smeared over with his excretion.

“That yogin who is constantly practising yoga attains the power to levitate. Then should the wise yogin think that these powers are great obstacles to the attainment of yoga, and so he should never take delight in them. The king of yogins should not exercise his powers before any person whatsoever. He should live in the world as a fool, an idiot, or a deaf man, in order to keep his powers concealed. His disciples would, without doubt, request him to show his powers for the gratification of their own desires. One who is actively engaged in one's duties forgets to practise (yoga), so he should practise day and night yoga without forgetting the words of the guru. Thus passes the *ghata* state to one who is constantly engaged in yoga practice. To one nothing is gained by useless company, since thereby he does not practise yoga. So one should with great effort practise yoga. Then by this constant practice is gained the *parichaya* state (the third state) *Vāyu* (or breath) through arduous practice pierces along with *agni* the *Kundalinī* through thought and enters the *Sushumnā* uninterrupted. When one's *chitta* enters *Sushumnā* along with *prāna*, it reaches the high seat (of the head probably) along with *prāna*.

“There are the five elements (*viz.*,) *prthivī*, *āpas*, *agni*, *vāyu* and *ākāś*. To the body of the five elements, there is the fivefold *dhāraṇā*. From the feet to the knees is said to be the region of *prthivī*, is four-sided in shape, is yellow in colour and has the *varṇa* (or letter) *La*. Carrying the breath with the letter *La* along the region of earth (*viz.*, from the foot to the knees) and contemplating upon *Brahmā* with four faces and four mouths and of a golden colour, one should perform *dhāraṇā* there for a period of two hours. He then attains mastery over the earth. Death does not trouble him, since he has obtained mastery over the earth element. The region of *āpas* is said to

extend from the knees to the anus Āpas is semi-lunar in shape and white in colour and has *Va* for its bīja (seed) letter Carrying up the breath with the letter *Va* along the region of āpas, he should contemplate on the God Nārāyaṇa having four arms and a crowned head, as being of the colour of pure crystal, as dressed in orange clothes and as decayless, and practising dhāraṇā there for a period of two hours, he is freed from all sins Then there is no fear for him from water, and he does not meet his death in water From the anus to the heart is said to be the region of agni Agni is triangular in shape, of red colour, and has the letter *Ra* for its (bīja) seed Raising the breath made resplendent through the letter *Ra* along the region of fire, he should contemplate on Rudra, who has three eyes, who grants all wishes, who is of the colour of the midday sun, who is daubed all over with holy ashes and who is of a pleased countenance Practising dhāraṇā there for a period of two hours, he is not burnt by fire even though his body enters the fire-pit From the heart to the middle of the eyebrows is said to be the region of vāyu Vāyu is hexangular in shape, black in colour and shines with the letter *Ya* Carrying the breath along the region of vāyu, he should contemplate on Īśvara, the Omniscient, as possessing faces on all sides, and practising dhāraṇā there for two hours, he enters vāyu and then ākāś The yogin does not meet his death through the fear of vāyu From the centre of the eyebrows to the top of the head is said to be the region of ākāś, is circular in shape, smoky in colour and shining with the letter *Ha* Raising the breath along the region of ākāś, he should contemplate on Sadāśiva in the following manner, as producing happiness, as of the shape of bindu, as the great deva, as having the shape of ākāś, as shining like pure crystal, as wearing the rising crescent of moon on his head, as having five faces, ten heads and three eyes, as being of a pleased countenance, as armed with all weapons, as adorned with all ornaments, as having Umā (the goddess) in one-half of his body, as ready to grant favours, and as the cause of all the causes. By practising dhāraṇā in the region of ākāś, he obtains

certainly the power of levitating in the ākāś (ether). Wherever he stays, he enjoys supreme bliss. The proficient in yoga should practise these five dhāranās. Then his body becomes strong and he does not know death. That great-minded man does not die even during the deluge of Brahamā

“Then he should practise dhāranā for a period of six ghāṭikās (2 hours, 24 minutes). Restraining the breath in (the region of) ākāś and contemplating on the deity who grants his wishes—this is said to be saḡuna¹ dhyāna capable of giving (the siddhis) anumā, etc. One who is engaged in nirguna² dhyāna attains the stage of samādhi. Within twelve days at least, he attains the stage of samādhi. Restraining his breath, the wise one becomes an emancipated person. Samādhi is that state in which the jivātmā (lower self) and the Paramātmā (higher self) are differenceless (or of equal state). If he desires to lay aside his body, he can do so. He will become absorbed in Parabrahman and does not require utkiānti (going out or up). But if he does not so desire, and if his body is dear to him, he lives in all the worlds possessing the siddhis of anumā, etc. Sometimes he becomes a deva and lives honoured in svarga, or he becomes a man or an yaksha through his will. He can also take the form of a lion, tiger, elephant, or horse through his own will. The yogin becoming the great Lord can live as long as he likes. There is difference only in the modes of procedure, but the result is the same.

“Place the left heel pressed on the anus, stretch the right leg and hold it firmly with both hands. Place the head on the breast and inhale the air slowly. Restrain the breath as long as you can and then slowly breathe out. After practising it with the left foot, practise it with the right. Place the foot that was stretched before on the thigh. This is mahābandha and should be practised on both sides. The yogin sitting in mahābandha and having inhaled the air with intent mind, should stop the course of vāyu (inside) by means of the throat-mudrā, and occupying the two sides (of the throat) with speed. This is called mahāvedha and is frequently practised by the siddhas. With the tongue thrust

¹ Lit., “with guṇas” and “without guṇas”.

into the interior cavity of the head (or throat) and with the eyes intent on the spot between the eyebrows, this is called khecharīmudrā. Contracting the muscles of the neck and placing the head with a firm will on the breast, this is called the jālandhara (bandha) and is a lion to the elephant of death. That bandha by which prāna flies through Sushumnā is called uddiyānabandha by the yogins. Pressing the heel firmly against the anus, contracting the anus and drawing up the apāna, this is said to be yonibandha. Through mūlabandha, prāna and apāna as well as nāda and bindu are united and gives success in yoga. There is no doubt about this. To one practising in a reversed manner (or on both sides) which destroys all diseases, the gastric fire is increased. Therefore a practitioner should collect a large quantity of provisions, (for) if he takes a small quantity of food, the fire (within) will consume his body in a moment.

“On the first day, he should stand on his head with the feet raised up for a moment. He should increase this period gradually every day. Wrinkles and greyness of hair will disappear within three months. He who practises only for a period of a yāma (twenty-four minutes) every day conquers time. He who practises vajrolī becomes a yogin and the repository of all siddhis. If the yoga siddhis are ever to be attained, he only has them within his reach. He knows the past and the future and certainly moves in the air. He who drinks of the nectar thus is rendered immortal day by day. He should daily practise vajrolī. Then it is called amarolī. Then he obtains the rājayoga and certainly he does not meet with obstacles. When a yogin fulfils his action by rājayoga, then he certainly obtains discrimination and indifference to objects. Vishnu, the great yogin, the grand one of great austerities and the most excellent Puruṣa is seen as a lamp in the path of truth.

“That breast from which one suckled before (in his previous birth) he now presses (in love) and obtains pleasure. He enjoys the same genital organ from which he was born before. She who was once his mother will now be wife and she who is now wife is (or will be) verily mother. He who is now father will be

again son, and he who is now son will be again father. Thus are the egos of this world wandering in the womb of birth and death like a bucket in the wheel of a well and enjoying the worlds. There are the three worlds, three vedas, three sandhyās, (morning, noon and evening), three svaras (sounds), three agnis, and guṇas, and all these are placed in the three letters (Om). He who understands that which is indestructible and is the meaning of the three (Om)—by him are all these worlds strung. This is the Truth, the supreme seat. As the smell in the flower, as the ghee in the milk as the oil in the gingelly seed and as the gold in the quartz, so is the lotus situated in the heart. Its face is downwards and its stem upwards. Its bindu is downwards and in its centre is situated manas. By the letter A, the lotus becomes expanded, by the letter U, it becomes split (or opened), by the letter M, it obtains nāda, and the ardhamātrā (half-metre) is silence. The person engaged in yoga obtains the the supreme seat, which is like a pure crystal, which is without parts and which destroys all sins. As a tortoise draws its hands and head within itself, so drawing in air thus and expelling it through the nine holes of the body, he breathes upwards and forwards. Like a lamp in an air-tight jar which is motionless, so that which is seen motionless through the process of yoga in the heart and which is free from turmoil, after having been drawn from the nine holes, is said to be Ātmā alone.

DHYĀNABINDU-UPANISHAD¹

OF

SĀMAVEDA

EVEN if sin should accumulate to a mountain extending over many yojanas (distance), it is destroyed by dhyānayoga. At no time has been found a destroyer of sins like this. Bījākshara (seed-letter) is the supreme bindu. Nāda (spiritual sound) is above it. When that nāda ceases along with letter, then the nāda-less is supreme state. That yogin who considers as the highest that which is above nāda, which is anāhaṭa,² has all his doubts destroyed. If the point of a hair be divided into one-hundred thousand parts, this (nāda) is one-half of that still further divided, and when (even) this is absorbed, the yogin attains to the stainless Brahman. One who is of a firm mind and without the delusion (of sensual pleasures) and ever resting in Brahman, should see like the string (in a rosary of beads) all creatures (as existing) in Ātmā like odour in flowers, like in milk, oil in gingelly seeds and gold in quartz. Again just as the oil depends for its manifestation upon gingelly seeds and odour upon flowers, so does the Purusha depend for its existence upon the body, both external and internal. The tree is with parts and its shadow is without parts but with and without parts, Ātmā exists everywhere.

The one akshara (letter Om) should be contemplated upon as Brahman by all who aspire for emancipation. Prthivī, agni, rgveda, bhūh and Brahmā—all these (are absorbed) when Akāra

¹ The Upanishad of the seed of meditation

² Of the heart.

(A), the first amsa (part) of pranava (Om) becomes absorbed Antariksha, yajurveda, vāyu, bhuvah and Vishnu, the Janārdana—all these (are absorbed) when Ukāra (U), the second amsa of pranava becomes absorbed. Dyur, sun, sāmaveda, suvah and Mahesvara—all these (are absorbed) when Makāra (M), the third amsa of pranava becomes absorbed Akāra is of (pīṭa) yellow colour and is said to be of rajoguna, Ukāra is of white colour and of sattvaguna, Makāra is of dark colour and of tamoguna. He who does not know Omkāra as having eight angas (parts), four pādas (feet), three sṭhānas (seats) and five devatās (presiding deities) is not a Brāhmana. Pranava is the bow. Ātmā is the arrow and Brahman is said to be the aim. One should aim at it with great care and then he, like the arrow, becomes one with It. When that Highest is cognised, all karmas return (from him, viz, do not affect him). The Vedas have Omkāra as their cause. The swaras (sounds) have Omkāra as their cause. The three worlds with (all) the locomotive and the fixed (ones in them) have Omkāra as their cause. The short (accent of Om) burns all sins, the long one is decayless and the bestower of prosperity. United with ardhamātrā (half-metre of Om), the pranava becomes the bestower of salvation. That man is the knower of the Vedas who knows that the end (viz, ardhamātrā) of pranava should be worshipped (or recited) as uninterrupted as the flow of oil and (resounding) as long as the sound of a bell. One should contemplate upon Omkāra as Īśvara resembling an unshaken light, as of the size of a thumb and as motionless in the middle of the pericarp of the lotus of the heart. Taking in vāyu through the left nostril and filling the stomach with it, one should contemplate upon Omkāra as being in the middle of the body and as surrounded by circling flames. Brahmā is said to be inspiration, Vishnu is said to be cessation (of breath), and Rudra is said to be expiration. These are the devatās of prāṇāyāma. Having made Ātmā as the (lower) arani (sacrificial wood) and pranava as the upper arani, one should see the God in secret through the practice of churning which is dhyāna. One should practise restraint of breath as much as it lies in his power along with (the utterance of)

Omkāra sound, until it ceases completely. Those who look upon Om as of the form of Hamsa staying in all, shining like crores of suns, being alone, staying in gamāgama (ever going and coming) and being devoid of motion—at last such persons are freed from sin. That manas which is the author of the actions (*viz*), creation, preservation and destruction of the three worlds, is (then) absorbed (in the supreme One). That is the highest state of Vishnu.

The lotus of the heart has eight petals and thirty-two filaments. The sun is in its midst: the moon is in the middle of the sun. Agni is in the middle of the moon. The prabhā (spiritual light) is in the middle of agni. Pīṭha (seat or centre) is in the midst of prabhā, being set in diverse gems. One should meditate upon the stainless Lord Vāsudeva as being (seated) upon the centre of Pīṭha, as having Śrīvatsa¹ (black mark) and Kaustubha (garland of gems) on his chest and as adorned with gems and pearls resembling pure crystal in lustre and as resembling crores of moons in brightness. He should meditate upon Mahā-Vishnu as above or in the following manner. (That is) he should meditate with inspiration (of breath) upon Mahā-Vishnu as resembling the aṭasī flower and as staying in the seat of navel with four hands, then with restraint of breath, he should meditate in the heart upon Brahmā, the Grandfather as being on the lotus with the gaura (pale-red) colour of gems and having four faces. Then through expiration, he should meditate upon the three-eyed Śiva between the two eyebrows shining like the pure crystal, being stainless, destroying all sins, being in that which is like the lotus facing down with its flower (or face) below and the stalk above or like the flower of a plantain tree, being of the form of all Vedas, containing one hundred petals and one hundred leaves and having the pericarp full-expanded. There he should meditate upon the sun, the moon and the agni, one above another. Passing above through the lotus which has the brightness of the sun, moon and agni, and taking its Hrīm bīja (letter), one leads his Ātmā firmly. He is the knower of Vedas.

¹ The black mark on the breast standing for mulaprakṛti and the garland for the five elements.

who knows the three seats, the three mātrās, the three Brahmās, the three aksharas (letters) and the three mātrās associated with the ardhamātrā. He who knows that which is above bindu, nāda and kalā as uninterrupted as the flow of oil and (resounding) as long as the sound of a bell—that man is a knower of the Vedas. Just as a man would draw up (with his mouth) the water through the (pores of the) lotus-stalk, so the yogin treading the path of yoga should draw up the breath. Having made the lotus-sheath of the form of ardhamātrā, one should draw up the breath through the stalk (of the nādis Sushumnā, Idā and Pingalā) and absorb it in the middle of the eyebrows. He should know that the middle of the eyebrows in the forehead which is also the root of the nose is the seat of nectar. That is the great place of Brahman.

Postures, restraint of breath, subjugation of the senses dhāranā, dhyāna and samādhi are the six parts of yoga. There are as many postures as there are living creatures, and Mahesvara (the great Lord) knows their distinguishing features. Siddha, bhadra, simha and padma are the four (chief) postures. Mūlādhāra is the first chakra. Svādhishthāna is the second. Between these two is said to be the seat of yoni (perineum), having the form of Kāma (God of love). In the Ādhāra of the anus, there is the lotus of four petals. In its midst is said to be the yoni called Kāma and worshipped by the siddhas. In the midst of the yoni is the Linga facing the west and split at its head like the gem. He who knows this, is a knower of the Vedas. A four-sided figure is situated above agni and below the genital organ, of the form of molten gold and shining like streaks of lightning. Prāna is with its sva (own) sound, having Svādhishthāna as its adhishthāna (seat), (or since sva or prāna arises from it). The chakra Svādhishthāna is spoken of as the genital organ itself. The chakra in the sphere of the navel is called Manipūraka, since the body is pierced through by vāyu like manis (gems) by string. The jīva (ego) urged to actions by its past virtuous and sinful karmas whirls about in this great chakra of twelve¹ spokes, so long as it

¹ In other places, it is ten

does not grasp the truth. Above the genital organ and below the navel is kanda of the shape of a bird's egg. There arise (from it) nādis seventy-two thousand in number. Of these seventy-two are generally known. Of these, the chief ones are ten and carry the prāṇas. Idā, Pingalā, Sushumnā, Gāndhārī, Hastībhvā, Pūshā, Yasasvinī, Alambusā, Kuhūh and Śāṅkhinī are said to be the ten. This chakra of the nādis should ever be known by the yogins. The three nādis Idā, Pingalā and Sushumnā are said to carry prāṇa always and have as their devatās, moon, sun and agni. Idā is on the left side and Pingalā on the right side, while the Sushumnā is in the middle. These three are known to be the paths of prāṇa. Prāṇa, Apāna, Samāna, Udāna, and Vyāna, Nāga, Kūrma, Kṛkara, Devadatta and Dhanañjaya, of these, the first five are called prāṇas, etc., and last five Nāga, etc. are called vāyus (or sub-prāṇas). All these are situated (or run along) the one thousand nādis, (being) in the form of (or producing) life Jīva which is under the influence of prāṇa and apāna goes up and down. Jīva on account of its ever moving by the left and right paths is not visible. Just as a ball struck down (on the earth) with the bat of the hand springs up, so jīva ever tossed by prāṇa and apāna is never at rest. He is knower of yoga who knows that prāṇa always draws itself from apāna and apāna draws itself from prāṇa, like a bird (drawing itself from and yet not freeing itself) from the string (to which it is tied).

The jīva comes out with the letter *Ha* and gets in again with the letter *Sa*. Thus jīva always utters the mantra 'Hamsa,' 'Hamsa.' The jīva always utters the mantra twenty-one thousand and six hundred times in one day and night. This is called Ajapā Gāyatrī and is ever the bestower of nīrvāna to the yogins. Through its very thought, man is freed from sins. Neither in the past nor in the future is there a science equal to this, a japa equal to this or a meritorious action equal to this. Paramesvarī (viz., kundalinī śakti) sleeps shutting with her mouth that door which leads to the decayless Brahma-hole. Being aroused by the contact of agni with manas and prāṇa, she takes the form of a needle and pierces up through Sushumnā. The

yogin should open with great effort this door which is shut. Then he will pierce the door to salvation by means of kundalinī. Folding firmly the fingers of the hands, assuming firmly the Padma posture, placing the chin firmly on the breast and fixing the mind in dhyāna, one should frequently raise up the apāna, fill up with air and then leave the prāna. Then the wise man gets matchless wisdom through (this) śakti. That yogin who assuming Padma posture worships (i.e., controls) vāyu at the door of the nādis and then performs restraint of breath is released without doubt. Rubbing off the limbs the sweat arising from fatigue, abandoning all acid, bitter and saltish (food), taking delight in the drinking of milk and rasa, practising celibacy, being moderate in eating and ever bent on yoga, the yogin becomes a siddha in little more than a year. No inquiry need be made concerning the result. Kuṇḍalinī śakti, when it is up in the throat, makes the yogi get siddhi. The union of prāna and apāna has the extinction of urine and faeces.

One becomes young even when old through performing mūlabandha always. Pressing the yoni by means of the heels and contracting the anus and drawing up the apāna—this is called mūlabandha. Uddiyāna bandha is so called because it is (like) a great bird that flies up always without rest. One should bring the western part of the stomach above the navel. This Uddiyāna bandha is a lion to the elephant of death, since it binds the water (or nectar) of the ākāś which arises in the head and flows down. The Jālandhara bandha is the destroyer of all the pains of the throat. When this Jālandhara bandha which is destroyer of the pains of the throat is performed, then nectar does not fall on agni nor does the vāyu move. When the tongue enters backwards into the hole of the skull, then there is the mudrā of vision latent in the eyebrow called khecharī. He who knows the mudrā, khecharī has not disease, death, sleep, hunger, thirst, or swoon. He who practises this mudrā is not affected by illness or karma, nor is he bound by the limitations of time. Since chitta moves in the kha (ākāś) and since the tongue has entered (in the mudrā) kha (i.e., the hole in the mouth), therefore the mudrā is called khecharī and worshipped by

the siddhas He whose hole (or passage) above the uvula is closed (with the tongue backwards) by means of khecharīmudrā never loses his virility, even when embraced by a lovely woman Where is the fear of death, so long as the bindu (virility) stays in the body Bindu does not go out of the body, so long as the khecharīmudra is practised (Even) when bindu comes down to the sphere of the perineum, it goes up, being prevented and forced up by violent effort through yonimudrā This bindu is twofold, white and red The white one is called sukla and the red one is said to contain much rajas The rajas which stays in yoni is like the colour of a coral The bindu stays in the seat of the genital organs. The union of these two is very rare Bindu is śiva and rajas is śakti Bindu is the moon and rajas is the sun Through the union of these two is attained the highest body, when rajas is roused up by agitating the śakti through vāyu which unites with the sun, thence is produced the divine form Sukla being united with the moon and rajas with the sun, he is a knower of yoga who knows the proper mixture of these two The cleansing of the accumulated refuse, the unification of the sun and the moon and the complete drying of the rasas (essences), this is called mahāmudrā Placing the chin on the breast, pressing the anus by means of the left heel, and seizing (the toe of) the extended right leg by the two hands, one should fill his belly (with air) and should slowly exhale This is called mahāmudrā, the destroyer of the sins of men

Now I shall give a description of Ātmā In the seat of the heart is a lotus of eight petals In its centre is jīvātmā of the form of jyotiś and atomic in size, moving in a circular line In it is located everything It knows everything It does everything It does all these actions attributing everything to its own power, (thinking) I do, I enjoy, I am happy, I am miserable, I am blind, I am lame, I am deaf, I am mute, I am lean, I am stout, etc When it rests on the eastern petal which is of sveta (white) colour, then it has a mind (or is inclined) to dharma with bhakti (devotion) When it rests on the south-eastern petal, which is of rakṣa (blood colour), then it is inclined

to sleep and laziness When it rests on the southern petal, which is of *kr̥ṣṇa* (black) colour, then it is inclined to hate and anger. When it rests on the south-western petal which is of *nīla* (blue) colour, then it gets desire for sinful or harmful actions When it rests on the western petal which is of crystal colour, then it is inclined to flirt and amuse When it rests on the north-western petal which is of ruby colour, then it has a mind to walk, rove and have *vairāgya* (or be indifferent) When it rests on the northern petal which is *pīṭa* (yellow) colour, then it is inclined to be happy and to be loving. When it rests on the north-eastern petal which is of *vaidūrya* (lapis lazuli) colour, then it is inclined to amassing money, charity and passion When it stays in the interspace between any two petals, then it gets the wrath arising from diseases generated through (the disturbance of the equilibrium of) *vāyu*, bile and phlegm (in the body). When it stays in the middle, then it knows everything, sings, dances, speaks and is blissful When the eye is pained (after a day's work), then in order to remove (its) pain, it makes first a circular line and sinks in the middle The first line is of the colour of *bandhūka* flower (*Bassia*). Then is the state of sleep In the middle of the state of sleep is the state of dream In the middle of the state of dream, it experiences the ideas of perception, Vedas, inference, possibility, (sacred) words, etc Then there arises much fatigue In order to remove this fatigue, it circles the second line and sinks in the middle The second is of the colour of (the insect) *Indragopa* (of red or white colour) Then comes the state of dreamless sleep

During the dreamless sleep, it has only the thought connected with *Paramesvara* (the highest Lord) alone This state is of the nature of eternal wisdom Afterwards it attains the nature of the highest Lord (*Paramesvara*) Then it makes a round of the third circle and sinks in the middle The third circle is of the colour of *padmaṅga* (ruby) Then comes the state of *ṭurya* (the fourth) In *ṭurya*, there is only the connection of *Paramātmā* It attains the nature of eternal wisdom Then one should gradually attain the quiescence of *buddhi* with

self-control Placing the manas in Ātmā, one should think of nothing else Then causing the union of prāna and apāna, he concentrates his aim upon the whole universe being of the nature of Ātmā Then comes the state of turyātīta (॥३॥, that state beyond the fourth). Then everything appears as bliss. He is beyond the pairs (of happiness and pains, etc.). He stays here as long as he should wear his body Then he attains the nature of Paramātmā and attains emancipation through this means. This alone is the means of knowing Ātmā

When vāyu (breath) which enters the great hole associated with a hall where four roads meet gets into the half of the well-placed triangle,¹ then is Achyuta (the indestructible) seen Above the aforesaid triangle, one should meditate on the five bīja (seed) letters of (the elements) prthivī, etc., as also on the five prānas, the colour of the bījas and their position. The letter ॐ² is the bīja of prāna and resembles the blue cloud The letter ॐ is the bīja of agni, is of apāna and resembles the sun The letter ॐ is the bīja of prthivī, is of vyāna and resembles bandhūka flower. The letter ॐ is the bīja of jīva (or vāyu), is of udāna and is of the colour of the conch The letter ॐ is the bīja of ākāś, is of samāna, and is of the colour of crystal Prāna stays in the heart, navel, nose, ear, foot, finger, and other places, travels through the seventy-two thousand nādis, stays in the twenty-eight crores of hair-pores and is yet the same everywhere It is that which is called jīva One should perform the three, expiration, etc., with a firm will and great control. and drawing in everything (with the breath) in slow degrees, he should bind prāna and apāna in the cave of the lotus of the heart and utter praṇava, having contracted his throat and the genital organ From the Mūlādhāra (to the head) is the Sushumnā resembling the shining thread of the lotus The nāda is located in the Vīṇādaṇḍa (spinal column), that sound from its middle resembles (that of) the conch, etc When it goes to the hole of the ākāś, it resembles that of the peacock In the middle of the cave of the

¹ Probably it refers to the triangle of the initiates

² There seems to be some mistake in the original

skull between the four doors shines Ātmā, like the sun in the sky. Between the two bows in the Brahma-hole, one should see Purusha with śakti as his own Ātmā. Then his manas is absorbed there. That man attains kaivalya who understands the gems, moonlight, nāda, bindu, and the seat of Mahesvara (the great Lord).

Thus is the Upanishad.

HAMSA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

SUKLA-YAJURVEDA

GAUTAMA addressed Sanatkumāra thus "O Lord, thou art the knower of all dharmas and art well versed in all Śāstras, pray tell me the means by which I may obtain a knowledge of Brahma-vidyā Sanatkumāra replied thus

"Heal, O Gauṭama, that Taṭtva as expounded by Pārvatī after inquiring into all dharmas and ascertaining Śiva's opinion. This treatise on the nature of Hamsa which gives the fruit of bliss and salvation and which is like a treasure to the yogin, is (a) very mystic (science) and should not be revealed (to the public)

"Now we shall explain the true nature of Hamsa and Paramahamsa for the benefit of a brahmachārīn (a seeker after Brahman or celibate), who has his desires under control, is devoted to his guru and always contemplates (as) Hamsa, and realises thus It (Hamsa) is permeating all bodies like fire (or heat) in all kinds of wood or oil in all kinds of gingelly seeds. Having known (It) thus, one does not meet with death

"Having contracted the anus (with the heels pressed against it), having raised the vāyu (breath) from (Mūla)² Āḍhāra

¹ This word "Hamsa" is very mysterious and has manifold meanings according to different standpoints. It is composed of Ham (or Aham) and Sa (ha), which mean "I" (am) "that". In its highest sense, it is Kālahamsa (or Para-brahman). It is also Brahmā when he has Hamsa (or swan) as the vehicle or Hamsa-vāhana. When Hamsa which is the manifestation of Prāṇa is applied to the human breath, we are said to exhale with Ha and to inhale with Sa. It is also called Ajapā-Gāyatrī

² The different chakras of those that are above the anus, in the genitals, navel, heart, and throat, between the eyebrows and in the head

(chakra), having made circuit thrice round Svādhishthāna, having gone to Manipūṛaka, having crossed Anāhata, having controlled Prāṇa in Viśuddhi and then having reached Ājñā, one contemplates in Brahmarandhra (in the head), and having meditated there always 'I am of three mātṛās,' cognises (his Self) and becomes formless. The Śisna ¹ (penis) has two sides (left and right from head to foot). This is that Paramahamsa (Supreme Hamsa or Higher Self) having the resplendence of crores of suns and by whom all this world is pervaded.

"It (this Hamsa which has buddhi as vehicle) ² has eight-fold vṛtti. (When it is) in the eastern ³ petal, there is the inclination (in a person) to virtuous actions, in the south-eastern petal, there arise sleep, laziness, etc., in the southern, there is the inclination to cruelty, in the south-western, there is the inclination to sins, in the western, there is the inclination to sensual sport, in the north-western, there arise the desire of walking, and others, in the northern, there arises the desire of lust, in the north-eastern, there arises the desire of amassing money, in the middle (or the interspaces between the petals), there is the indifference to material pleasures. In the filament (of the lotus), there arises the waking state, in the pericarp, there arises the svapna (dreaming state), in the bīja (seed of pericarp), there arises the sushupti (dreamless sleeping state), when leaving the lotus, there is the turya (fourth state). When Hamsa is absorbed in Nāda (spiritual sound), the state beyond the fourth is reached. Nāda (which is at the end of sound and beyond speech and mind) is like a pure crystal extending from (Mūla) Ādhāra to Brahmarandhra. It is that which is spoken of as Brahmā and Paramātmā.

"(Here the performance of Ajapā Gāyatrī is given).

"Now Hamsa is the rshī, the metre is Avyakṭā Gāyatrī, Paramahamsa is the devatā (or presiding deity) 'Ham' is the bīja, 'Sa' is the saktī, So'ham is the kilaka ⁴. Thus there are

¹ This is omitted in the Calcutta edition and seemingly makes no sense here.

² This is how a commentator explains.

³ This refers to the different petals in the heart. Vide the same in Nārada-Parivṛājaka and Dhyanabindu Upanishads.

⁴ Kilaka means wedge. In the Ajapā mantra 'Hamsa so'ham', So'ham is the wedge to which the whole mantra is fastened.

six. There are 21,600 Hamsas (or breaths)¹ in a day and night. (Salutation² to) Surya, Soma, Nirāñjana (the stainless) and Nirābhāsa (the universeless). Ajapāmāṇṭra. (May) the bodiless and subtle one guide³ (or illuminate my understanding). Vāushat to Agni-Soma. Then Āṅganyāsas and Karanyāsas occur (or should be performed after the mantras as they are performed before the mantras) in the heart and other (seats). Having done so, one should contemplate upon Hamsa as the Ātmā in his heart. Agni and Soma are its wings (right and left sides); Omkāra is its head; Ukāra and bindu are the three eyes⁴ and face respectively; Rudra and Rudrāṇī (or Rudra's wife) are the feet kanthata (or the realisation of the oneness of jīvātmā or Hamsa, the lower self with Paramātmā or Paramahamsa, the Higher Self) is done in two ways, (samprajñāta⁵ and asamprajñāta).

"After that, Unmanī⁶ is the end of the Ajapā (mantra). Having thus reflected upon manas by means of this (Hamsa), one hears Nāḍa after the uttering of this japa (mantra) a crore of times. It (Nāḍa) is (begun to be heard as) of ten kinds. The first is chini (like the sound of that word); the second is chini-chini; the third is the sound of bell; the fourth is that of conch; the fifth is that of ṭantri (lute); the sixth is that sound of tāla (cymbals); the seventh is that of flute; the eighth is that of bheri (drum); the ninth is that of mṛdaṅga (double drum); and the tenth is that of clouds (vīra, thunder). He may experience the tenth without the first nine sounds (through the initiation of

¹ One commentator gives the table for 21,600 thus. 60 breaths make one Prāṇa; 6 Prāṇas, one nāḍi; and 60 nāḍis, one day and night.

² The words are Sūryāya, Somāya, Nirāñjanāya, Nirābhāsāya. It is with the pronunciation of these words that the different places in the body are touched, viz., Āṅganyāsa and Karanyāsa are performed. The first word is pointed to the heart with the thumb; the second, to the head, and the third, to the hair of the head. With the last a karuṇa (gesture) is made by circling the fingers round the head and then circling one hand over another. This process is carried on again after the pronunciation of Ajapāmāṇṭra which follows. Here Soma (moon) is that which is united with Umi or the emblem of the union of the lower and higher selves. Sūrya or Sun is the cause of the state of one-ness.

³ As it stands, it means "the bodiless, the subtle and the guide. The original is Atma Subhānam Prachodāt.

⁴ The three eyes are the two eyes commonly now in use with the Divine eye.

⁵ Contemplation with an object as seed and the seedless one.

⁶ A state above manas or when manas is transcended.

a guru). In the first stage, his body becomes chinī-chinī, in the second, there is the (bhañjana) breaking (or affecting) in the body, in the third, there is the (bhedana) piercing; in the fourth, the head shakes, in the fifth, the palate produces saliva, in the sixth, nectar is attained, in the seventh, the knowledge of the hidden (things in the world) arises, in the eighth, Parāvāk is heard, in the ninth, the body becomes invisible and the pure divine eye is developed, in the tenth, he attains Parabrahman in the presence of (or with) Ātmā which is Brahman. After that, when manas is destroyed, when it which is the source of sankalpa and vikalpa disappears, owing to the destruction of these two, and when virtues and sins are burnt away, then he shines as Sadāsiva of the nature of Śakti pervading everywhere, being effulgence in its very essence, the immaculate, the eternal, the stainless and the most quiescent Om. Thus is the teaching of the Vedas; and thus is the Upanishad."

AMRTANĀDA-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

THE wise, having studied the Śāstras and reflected on them again and again and having come to know Brahman, should abandon them all like a firebrand. Having ascended the car of Om with Viṣṇu (the Higher Self) as the charioteer, one wishing to go to the seat of Brahmāloka intent on the worship of Rudra, should go in the chariot so long as he can go. Then abandoning the car, he reaches the place of the Lord of the car. Having given up mātṛā, līṅga,² and pada,³ he attains the subtle pada (seat or word) without vowels or consonants by means of the letter M without the svara (accent). That is called pratyāhāra when one merely thinks of the five objects of sense, such as sound, etc., as also the very unsteady mind as the reins of Ātmā. Pratyāhāra (subjugation of the senses), dhyāna (contemplation), prāṇāyāma (control of breath), dhāraṇā (concentration), tārka⁴ and samādhi are said to be the six parts of yoga. Just as the impurities of mountain-minerals are burnt by the blower, so the stains committed by the organs are burned by checking prāṇa. Through prāṇāyāmas should be burnt the stains, through dhāraṇā, the sins, through pratyāhāra,

¹ The Upanishad treating of Nāda (spiritual sound) which is Amṛta (nectar). Here Prāṇas are spoken of, as they produce Nāda within and without.

² It is said to be the subtle, gross and other microcosmic bodies. It also means sign.

³ It is said to be the macrocosmic bodies of Virāt, etc. It means a word or letter.

⁴ In this classification, tārka is introduced newly. It means, the examination of the mind being attracted to objects and knowing that siddhis are impediments to progress.

the (bad) associations, and through dhyāna, the godless qualities. Having destroyed the sins, one should think of Ruchira (the shining) Ruchira (cessation), expiration and inspiration—these three are prāṇāyāma of (rechaka, pūraka and kumbhaka) expiration, inspiration and cessation of breath That is called (one) prāṇāyāma when one repeats with a prolonged (or elongated) breath three times the Gāyatrī with its vyāhṛtis and Pranava (before it) along with the śiras¹ (the head) joining after it Raising up the vāyu from the ākāś (region, viz, the heart) and making the body void (of vāyu) and empty and uniting (the soul) to the state of void, is called rechaka (expiration) That is called pūraka (inspiration) when one takes in vāyu, as a man would take water into his mouth through the lotus-stalk That is called kumbhaka (cessation of breath) when there is no expiration or inspiration and the body is motionless, remaining still in one state Then he sees forms like the blind, hears sounds like the deaf and sees the body like wood. This is the characteristic of one that has attained much quiescence. That is called dhāraṇā when the wise man regards the mind as sankalpa and merging sankalpa into Ātmā, contemplates upon his Ātmā (alone). That is called tārka when one makes inference which does not conflict with the Vedas That is called samādhi in which one, on attaining it, thinks (all) equal

Seating himself on the ground on a seat of kuśa grass which is pleasant and devoid of all evils, having protected himself mentally (from all evil influences), uttering raṭha-maṇḍala,² assuming either padma, svastika, or bhadra posture or any other which can be practised easily, facing the north and closing the nostril with the thumb, one should inspire through the other nostril and retain breath inside and preserve the Agni (fire) Then he should think of the sound (Om) alone. Om, the one letter is Brahman, Om should not be breathed out Through this divine mantra (Om), it should be done many times to rid himself of

¹ The vyāhṛtis are Bhūh, Bhuvah, etc, and the head is Om, Āpo, etc.

² Lit., ear circle which is a mystical chakra or diagram for invoking the devatā, but some commentators make raṭha mean Om and maṇḍala, the circle of Śiva

impurity Then as said before, the mantra-knowing wise should regularly meditate, beginning with the navel upwards in the gross, the primary (or less) gross and subtle (states). The greatly wise should give up all (sight) seeing across, up or down, and should practise yoga always being motionless and without tremor The union as stated (done) by remaining without tremor in the hollow stalk (*viz*, Sushumnā) alone is dhāranā. The yoga with the ordained duration of twelve mātrās is called (dhāranā). That which never decays is Akshara (Om) which is without ghosha (third, fourth, and fifth letters from K), consonant, vowel, palatal, guttural, nasal, letter R and sibilants Prāṇa travels through (or goes by) that path through which this Akshara (Om) goes Therefore it should be practised daily, in order to pass along that (course) It is through the opening (or hole) of the heart, through the opening of vāyu (probably navel), through the opening of the head and through the opening of moksha They call it bila (cave), sushira (hole), or maṇḍala (wheel) ¹

(Then about the obstacles of yoga). A yogin should always avoid fear, anger, laziness, too much sleep or waking and too much food or fasting If the above rule be well and strictly practised each day, spiritual wisdom will arise of itself in three months without doubt In four months, he sees the devas, in five months, he knows (or becomes) Brahmanishtha, and truly in six months he attains Kaivalya at will There is no doubt

That which is of the earth is of five mātrās (or it takes five mātrās to pronounce Pārthiva-Pranava) That which is of water is of four mātrās, of agni, three mātrās, of vāyu, two, and of ākāś, one But he should think of that which is with no mātrās Having united Ātmā with manas, one should contemplate upon Ātmā by means of ātmā Prāṇā is thirty ² digits long Such is the position (or range) of prāṇas That is called Prāṇa which is the seat of the external prāṇas The breaths by

¹ There are four openings in the body, three from which the astral, the lower mental and the higher mental bodies escape the last being of *ṭurya*.

² As measured by the width of the middle finger Yājñavalkya says, Prāṇa is 12 digits beyond the body

day and night are numbered as 1,13,180.¹ (Of the prāṇas) the first (viz.,) Prāṇa is pervading the heart, Apāna, the anus, Samāna, the navel; Udāna, the throat, and Vyāna, all parts of the body. Then come the colours of the five prāṇas in order. Prāṇa is said to be of the colour of a blood-red gem (or coral), Apāna which is in the middle is of the colour of Indragopa (an insect of white or red colour); Samāna is between the colour of pure milk and crystal (or oily and shining), between both (Prāṇa and Apāna). Udāna is apāndara (pale white); and Vyāna resembles the colour of archus (or ray of light).¹ That man is never reborn wherever he may die, whose breath goes out of the head after piercing through this maṇḍala (of the pineal gland). That man is never reborn.

¹ One commentator makes it thus. Taking 21,600 for each of the five Prāṇas, we get 1,08,000 for the five combined. But 1,13,180 is the number given in the text.

VARĀHA¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

CHAPTER I

THE great sage Rbhu performed penance for twelve deva (divine) years. At the end of the time, the Lord appeared before him in the form of a boar. He said "Rise, rise and choose your boon". The sage got up and having prostrated himself before him said "O Lord, I will not, in my dream, wish of thee those things that are desired by the worldly. All the Vedas, Śāstias, Itihāsas² and all the hosts of other sciences, as well as Brahmā and all the other Devas, speak of emancipation as resulting from a knowledge of thy nature. So impart to me that science of Brahman which treats of thy nature."

Then the boar-shaped Bhagavān (Lord) said "Some disputants hold that there are twenty-four *ṭatṭvas* (principles) and some thirty-six, whilst others maintain that there are ninety-six. I shall relate them in their order. Listen with an attentive mind. The organs of sense are five, *viz* ear, skin, eye and others. The organs of action are five, *viz* mouth, hand, leg and others. *Prāṇas* (vital airs) are five,³ sound and others (*viz*, rudimentary principles) are five.⁴ *Manas*, *buddhi*, *chitta* and *ahankāra* are four,⁵ thus

¹ This means boar and refers to the incarnation of Vishnu as a boar.

² Books such as *Mahābhārata* and *Rāmāyana*.

³ *Prāṇa*, *Apāna*, *Udāna*, *Vyāna* and *Samāna*, having their respective places and functions in the body.

⁴ Sound, touch, form, taste and odour.

⁵ Producing respectively uncertainty, certain knowledge, fluctuation of thought, and egoism and having certain centres in the body.

those that know Brahman know these to be the twenty-four *ṭattvas*. Besides these, the wise hold the quintuplicated elements to be five, *viz* earth, water, fire, *vāyu* and *ākāś*, the bodies to be three, *viz* the gross, the subtle and the *kāraṇa* or causal, the states of consciousness to be three, *viz* the waking, the dreaming and the dreamless sleeping. The munis know the total collection of *ṭattvas* to be thirty-six (coupled with *jīva*)

“ With these *ṭattvas*, there are six changes, *viz.* existence, birth, growth, transformation, decay and destruction. Hunger, thirst, grief, delusion, old age and death are said to be the six infirmities. Skin, blood, flesh, fat, marrow and bones are said to be the six sheaths. Passion, anger, avarice, delusion, pride and malice are the six kinds of foes. *Viśva*, *Taijasa* and *Piājña*¹ are the three aspects of the *jīva*. *Saṭtva*, *rajas* and *ṭamas* are the three *gunas* (qualities). *Piārabdha*,² *sañchita* and *āgāmin* are the three *karmas*. Talking, lifting, walking, excreting and enjoying are the five actions (of the organs of action), and there are also thought, certainty, egoism, compassion, memory (functions of *manas*, etc.), complacency, sympathy and indifference. *dik* (the quarters), *Vāyu*, Sun, *Varuṇa*,³ *Asvini devas*,⁴ *Agni*, *Indra*, *Upendra*,⁵ and *Mṛtyu* (death) and then the moon, the four-faced *Brahmā*, *Rudra*, *Kṣetrajña*,⁶ and *Īśvara*. Thus these are the ninety-six *ṭattvas*. Those that worship, with devotion, me of the form of boar, who am other than the aggregate of these *ṭattvas* and am without decay are released from *ajñāna* and its effects and become *jīvanmukṭas*. Those that know these ninety-six *ṭattvas* will attain salvation in whatever order of life they may be, whether they have matted hair or are of shaven head or have (only) their tuft of hair on.’ There is no doubt of this. Thus ends the first chapter ”

¹ In the states of waking, dreaming and dreamless sleeping.

² Being past *karmas* now being enjoyed, past *karmas* being in store to be enjoyed hereafter and the *karmas* now produced to be enjoyed hereafter

³ Presiding over water or tongue

⁴ Presiding over odour or nose

⁵ Presiding over leg or nether world

⁶ Vide the translation of *Sarvasāra-Upanishad*

⁷ This refers to the several class of persons in different modes of life who wear their hair in different ways as yogins, ascetics and so on

CHAPTER II

The great Rbhu (again) addressed the Lord of Lakshmī of the form of boar thus “O Lord, please initiate me into the supreme Brahma vidyā (or science)” Then the Lord who removes the miseries of his devotees being thus questioned, answered thus “Through (the right observance of) the duties of one’s own caste and orders of life, through religious austerities and through the pleasing of the guru (by serving him rightly), arise to persons the four, vairāgya, etc. They are the discrimination of the eternal from the non-eternal, indifference to the enjoyments of this and the other worlds, the acquisition of the six virtues, sama,¹ etc., and the longing after liberation. These should be practised. Having subdued the sensual organs and having given up the conception of ‘mine’ in all objects, you should place your consciousness of ‘I’ in (or identify yourself with) me, who am the witness Chaitanya (consciousness). To be born as a human being is difficult—more difficult it is to be born as a male being—and more so is it to be born as a Brāhman. Even then, if the fool does not cognise through the hearing,² etc., of vedānta, the true nature of the Sachchidānanda (of Brahman) that is all-pervading, and that is beyond all caste and orders of life, when will he obtain moksha? I alone am happiness. There is none other. If the e is said to be another, then it is not happiness. There is no such thing as love, except on my account. The love that is on account of me is not natural to me. As I am the seat of supreme love, that ‘I am not’ is not. He who is sought after by all, saying “I should become such,” is myself, the all-pervading. How can non-light affect Ātmā, the self-shining which is no other than the light whence originates the words ‘I am not light’. My firm conviction is, whoever knows for certain that (Ātmā) which is self-shining and has itself no basis (to rest upon), is one of vijñāna.

¹ Meaning respectively mental restraint, bodily restraint, the renunciation or practising of works without reference to their fruits, endurance of heart and soul, etc., faith and settled peace of mind.

² Meaning meditation and reflection thereon.

“The universe, jīva, Īśvara, māya and others do not really exist, except my full Ātmā. I have not their characteristics. Karma which has dhāranā and other attributes and is of the form of darkness and ajñāna is not fit to touch (or affect) me, who am Ātmā, the self-resplendent. That man who sees (his) Ātmā which is all-witness and is beyond all caste and orders of life as of the nature of Brahman, becomes himself Brahman. Whoever sees, through the evidence of vedānta, this visible universe as the Supreme Seat which is of the form of light, attains moksha at once. When that knowledge which dispels the idea that this body (alone) is Ātmā, arises firmly in one's mind as was before the knowledge that this body (alone) is Ātmā, then that person, even though he does not desire moksha, gets it. Therefore how will a person be bound by karma, who always enjoys the bliss of Brahman which has the characteristics of Sachchidānanda, and which is other than ajñāna? Persons with spiritual eyes see Brahman, that is the witness of the three states that has the characteristics of be-ness, wisdom and bliss, that is the underlying meaning of the words ‘Thou’ (Tvam) and ‘I’ (Aham), and that is untouched by all the stains. As a blind man does not see the sun that is shining, so an ignorant person does not see (Brahman). Prajñāna alone is Brahman. It has truth and prajñāna as its characteristics. By thus cognising Brahman well, a person becomes immortal. One who knows his own Ātmā as Brahman, that is bliss, and without duality and gunas (qualities), and that is truth and absolute consciousness is not afraid of anything. That which is consciousness alone which is all-pervading, which is eternal, which is all-full, which is of the form of bliss, and which is indestructible, is the only true Brahman. It is the settled determination of Brahmajñānīs that there is naught else but that. As the world appears dark to the blind and bright to those having good eyes, so this world full of manifold miseries to the ignorant is full of happiness to the wise. In me, of the form of boar, who am infinite and the Bliss of absolute Consciousness, if there is the conception of non-dualism, where then is bondage? And who is the one to be emancipated? The real nature of all

embodied objects is ever the absolute Consciousness. Like the pot seen by the eyes, the body and its aggregates are not (*viz*, do not really exist). Knowing, as *Ātmā*, all the locomotive and fixed worlds that appear as other than *Ātmā*, meditate upon them as 'It I am'. Such a person then enjoys his real nature. There is no other to be enjoyed than one-Self. If there is anything that is, then Brahman alone has that attribute. One who is perfect in Brahmajñāna, though he always sees this established universe, does not see it other than his *Ātmā*. By cognising clearly my form, one is not trammelled by karma. He is an undaunted person who by his own experience cognises as his own real nature all (the universe and Brahman) that is without the body and the organs of sense—that is the all-witness—that is the one noumenal *viñāna*, that is the blissful *Ātmā* (as contrasted with *jīvātmā* or the lower self) and that is the self-resplendent. He is one that should be known as 'I' (myself). O *Rbhu*, may you become He. After this, there will be never any experience of the world. Thereafter there will always be the experience of the wisdom of one's own true nature. One who has thus known fully *Ātmā* has neither emancipation nor bondage. Whoever meditates, even for one *muhūrta* (48 minutes) through the cognition of one's own real form, upon Him who is dancing as the all-witness, is released from all bondage. Prostrations—prostrations to me who am in all the elements, who am the *Chidātmā* (*viz*, *Ātmā* of the nature of wisdom) that is eternal and free and who am the *Pratyagātmā*. O *Devaṭā*, you are I. I am you. Prostrations on account of myself and yourself who are infinite and who are *Chidātmā*, myself being the supreme *Īśa* (Lord) and yourself being *Śiva* (of a beneficent nature). What should I do? Where should I go? What should I reject? (Nothing, because) the universe is filled by me as with the waters of the universal deluge. Whoever gives up (fond) love of the external, love of the internal and love of the body and thus gives up all associations, is merged in me. There is no doubt about it. That *Paramahansa* (ascetic) who, though living in the world, keeps aloof from human congregation as from serpent, who regards a beautiful woman as a (living)

corpse and the endless sensual objects as poison, and who has abandoned all passion and is indifferent towards all objects is no other than Vāsudeva,¹ (*viz.*) myself. This is satya (truth) This is nothing but truth It is truth alone that is now said I am Brahman, the truth. There is naught else but I.

“(The word) ‘upavāsa’ (lit, dwelling near) signifies the dwelling near (or union) of jīvātmā and Paramātmā and not (the religious observance as accepted by the worldly of) emaciating the body through fasts. To the ignorant, what is the use of the mere drying up of the body? By beating about the hole of a snake, can we be said to have killed the big snake within. A man is said to attain paroksha (indirect) wisdom when he knows (theoretically) that there is Brahman, but he is said to attain sākshāṭkāra (direct cognition) when he knows (or realises) that he is himself Brahman. When a yogin knows his Ātmā to be the Absolute, then he becomes a jīvanmukta To mahātmās, to be always in the state ‘I am Brahman’ conduces to their salvation. There are two words for bondage and moksha. They are ‘mine’ and ‘not mine’. Man is bound by ‘mine’, but he is released by ‘not mine’. He should abandon all the thoughts relating to externals and so also with reference to internals O Rbhu having given up all thoughts, you should rest content (in your Ātmā) ever.

“The whole of the universe is caused through sankalpa alone. It is only through sankalpa that the universe manifests. Having abandoned the universe, which is of the form of sankalpa and having fixed your mind upon the nirvikalpa (one which is changeless), meditate upon my abode in your heart O most intelligent being, pass your time in meditating upon me, glorifying me in songs, talking about me to one another and thus devoting yourself entirely to me as the Supreme Whatever is chit (consciousness) in the universe is only Chinmātra. This universe is Chinmaya only You are Chit I am Chit contemplate upon the worlds also as Chit Make the desires nil Always be without any stain How then can the bright lamp of Ātmic vijñāna

¹ *Viz.*, Vishnu, the Lord of all persons

arising through the Vedas be affected by the karma arising from the ignorance of the actor and the agent? Having given up not-Ātma and being in the world unaffected by it, delight only in the Chinmātra within, ever intent on the One. As the ākāś of the pot and that of the house are both located in the all-pervading ākāś, so the jīvas and Īśvara are only evolved out of me, the Chidākāś (the one ākāś of universal consciousness). So that which did not exist before the evolution of Ātmas (jīvas and Īśvara) and that which is rejected at the end (*viz*, universal deluge) is called māyā by Brahmajñānīs through their discrimination. Should māyā and its effects (the universe) be annihilated, there is no state of Īśvara, there is no state of jīva. Therefore like the ākāś without its vehicle, I am the immaculate and Chit.

“The creation, sentient as well as non-sentient from ikṣhanā (thinking) to praveśa (entry) (as stated in Chhāṇḍogya-Upanishad, Prapāthaka VI, Khandas II and III) of those having the forms of jīvas and Īśvara is due to the creation (or illusion) of Īśvara; while the saṃsāra (worldly existence) from the waking state to salvation is due to the creation of jīva. So the karmas ordained in the sacrifice (called) Triṇāchaka (so called after Nachikētas of Katha-Upanishad) to yoga are dependent upon the illusion of Īśvara, while (the systems from) Lokāyata (atheistical system) to sāṅkhya rest on the illusion of jīva. Therefore aspirants after salvation should never make their heads enter into the field of controversy regarding jīva and Īśvara. But with an undisturbed mind, the tattvas of Brahman should be investigated. Those who do not cognise the tattva of the secondless Brahman are all deluded persons only. Whence (then) is salvation to them? Whence then is happiness (to them) in this universe? What if they have the thoughts of the superiority and inferiority (of Īśvara and jīva)? Will sovereignty and mendicancy (experienced by a person) in the dreaming state affect him in his waking state? When buddhi is absorbed in ajñāna, then it is termed, by the wise, sleep. Whence then is sleep to me who have not ajñāna and its effects? When buddhi is in full bloom, then it is said to be the jāgrat (waking state).

As I have no changes, etc., there is no waking state to me. The moving about of buddhi in the subtle nādis constitutes the dreaming state. In me without the act of moving about, there is no dreaming. Then at the time of suhupti when all things are absorbed, enveloped by tamas, he then enjoys the highest bliss of his own nature in an invisible state. If he sees everything as Chit without any difference, he alone is an actual vijñānī. He alone is Śiva. He alone is Hari. He alone is Brahmā. This mundane existence which is an ocean of sorrow, is nothing but a long-lived dream, or an illusion of the mind or a long-lived reign of the mind. From rising from sleep till going to bed, the one Brahman alone should be contemplated upon. By causing to be absorbed this universe which is but a superimposition, the chitta partakes of my nature. Having annihilated all the six powerful enemies, through their destruction become the non-dual One like the scent-elephant. Whether the body perishes now or lasts the age of moon and stars, what matters it to me having Chit alone as my body? What matters it to the ākūṣ in the pot, whether it (the pot) is destroyed now or exists for a long time. While the slough of a serpent lies cast off lifeless in its hole, it (the serpent) does not convince any affection towards it. Likewise the wise do not identify themselves with their gross and subtle bodies. If the delusive knowledge (that the universe is real) with its cause should be destroyed by the fire of ātmajñāna, the wise man becomes bodiless, through the idea 'It (Brahman) is not this; It is not this.' Through the study of Śāstras, the knowledge of reality (of the universe) perishes. Through direct perception of truth, one's fitness for action (in this universe) ceases. With the cessation of prārabdha (the portion of the past karma which is being enjoyed in this life), the destruction of the manifestation (of the universe) takes place. Māyā is thus destroyed in a threefold manner. If within himself no identification (of jiva) with Brahman takes place, the state (of the separateness) of jiva does not perish. If the non-dual one is truly discerned, then all affinities (for objects) cease. With the cessation of prarabdhā (arising from the cessation of

affinities), there is that of the body Therefore it is certain that māyā perishes thus entirely

“If it is said that all the universe is, that Brahman alone is that is of the nature of Sat If it is said that the universe shines, then it is Brahman alone that shines - (The mirage of) all the water in an oasis is really no other than the oasis itself Through inquiry of one's Self, the three worlds (above, below and middle) are only of the nature of Chit In Brahman, which is one and alone, the essence of whose nature is absolute Consciousness and which is remote from the differences of jīva, Īśvara and guru, there is no ajñāna Such being the case, where then is the occasion for the universe there? I am that Brahman which is all full. While the full moon of wisdom is robbed of its lustre by the rāhu (one of the two nodes of the moon) of delusion, all actions¹ such as the rites of bathing, alms-giving and sacrifice performed during the time of eclipse are all fruitless As salt dissolved in water becomes one, so if Ātmā and manas become identified, it is termed samādhi. Without the grace of a good (perfect) guru, the abandonment of sensual objects is very difficult of attainment, so also the perception of (divine) truth and the attainment of one's true state Then the state of being in one's own self shines of its own accord in a yogin in whom jñāna-sakti² has dawned and who has abandoned all karmas. The (property of) fluctuation is natural to mercury and mind If either mercury is bound (or consolidated) or mind is bound (or controlled), what then on this earth cannot be accomplished? He who obtains mūrchchhā³ cures all diseases The dead are brought to life again He who has bound (his mind or mercury) is able to move in the air Therefore mercury and mind confer upon one the state of Brahman The master of indriyas (the organs) is manas (mind) The master of manas is prāṇa The master of prāṇa is laya (absorption yoga) Therefore laya-yoga should be practised To the yogins, laya (-yoga) is said to be

¹ During the solar and lunar eclipses, these rites are done by the Hindūs.

² Of the six saktis, she is one that gives wisdom.

³ Either controlling the breath through prāṇāyāma or the consolidation of mercury through some means, leading in both cases to siddhis, etc

without actions and changes. This *laya* (absorption) of mind which is above speech and in which one has to abandon all sankalpas and to give up completely all actions, should be known through one's own (experience) As an actress, though subject (or dancing in harmony) to music, cymbals and other musical instruments of time, has her mind intent upon the protection of the pot on her head, so the yogin, though intent for the time being upon the hosts of objects, never leaves off the wealth of yoga Brahman. The person who desires all thoughts, practise with should, after having given up all thoughts, practise with a subdued mind concentration on *nāda* (spiritual sound) alone."

CHAPTER III

"The One Principle cannot at any time become of manifold forms. As I am the partless, there is none else but myself. Whatever is seen and whatever is heard is no other than Brahman. I am that Parabrahman, which is the eternal, the immaculate, the free, the one, the undivided bliss, the non-dual, the truth, the wisdom, and the endless I am of the nature of bliss, I am of undivided wisdom; I am the supreme of the supreme; I am the resplendent absolute Consciousness. As the clouds do not touch the *ākāś*, so the miseries attendant on mundane existence do not affect me. Know all to be happiness through the annihilation of sorrow and all to be of the nature of *saṭ* (be-ness) through the annihilation of *asat* (not-be-ness). It is only the nature of *Chit* (Consciousness) that is associated with this visible universe Therefore my form is partless. To an exalted yogin, there is neither birth nor death, nor going (to other spheres), nor returning (to earth), there is no stain or purity or knowledge but (the universe) shines to him as absolute Consciousness. Practise always silence 'I am (*viz.*, that you yourself are) Parabrahman' which is truth and absolute Consciousness, which is undivided and non-dual, which is invisible, which is stainless, which is pure, which is secondless, and which is benificent. It (Brahman) is not subject to

birth and death, happiness and misery It is not subject to caste, law, family and gotra (clan) Practise silence—I am Chit which is the vivarta-upādāna¹ (*viz*, the illusory cause) of the universe Always practise silence—I am (*viz*, you are) the Brahman, that is the full, the secondless, the undivided consciousness which has neither the relationship nor the differences existing in the universe and which partakes of the essence of the non-dual and the supreme Sat and Chit

“That which always is and that which preserves the same nature during the three periods of time, unaffected by anything, is my eternal form of Sat Even the state of happiness which is eternal without upādhis (vehicles) and which is superior to all the happiness derivable from sushupti is of my bliss only As by the rays of the sun, thick gloom is soon destroyed, so darkness, the cause of rebirth is destroyed by Hari (Vishnu) *viz*, the sun's lustre. Through the contemplation and worship of my (Hari's) feet, every person is delivered from his ignorance The means of destroying deaths and births is only through the contemplation of my feet As a lover of wealth praises a wealthy man, so if with earnestness a person praises the Cause of the universe, who will not be delivered from bondage?

“As in presence of the sun the world of its own accord begins to perform its actions, so in my presence all the worlds are animated to action As to the mother-of-pearl, the illusory conception of silver is falsely attributed, so to me is falsely attributed through māyā this universe which is composed of mahat, etc I am not with those differences that are (observable) in the body of low caste men, the body of cow, etc, the fixed ones, the bodies of brāhmaṇas and others As to a person, even after being relieved from the misconception of the directions, the (same misconception of) direction continues (as before),

¹ Of the two causes of the universe, Spirit is the nimitta (instrumental) cause while matter is the upādāna (material) cause This material cause is again subdivided into three *viz*, ārambha (initial), parināma (changed) and vivarta (illusory) The first or material cause may be exemplified by the cotton or woollen thread being the initial material cause of cloth or dresses which are woven out of these threads without changing the threads, the second by milk being the changed cause of curd, since a change takes place in the milk which becomes curd; the third by a serpent being the illusory cause of a rope, for here through illusion we mistake the rope for the serpent

just so is to me the universe though destroyed by vijñāna. Therefore the universe is not. I am neither the body nor the organs of sense and action, nor prāṇas, nor manas, nor buddhi, nor ahankāra, nor chitta, nor māyā, nor the universe including ākāś and others. Neither am I the actor, the enjoyer, nor he who causes the enjoyment. I am Brahman that is Chit, Sat and Ānanda alone and that is Janārdana (Vishnu).

"As, through the fluctuation of water, the sun (reflected therein) is moved, so Ātmā arises in this mundane existence through its mere connection with ahankāra. This mundane existence has chitta as its root. This (chitta) should be cleansed by repeated effort. How is it you have your confidence in the greatness of chitta? Alas, where is all the wealth of the kings! Where are the Brahmās? Where are all the worlds? All old ones are gone. Many fresh evolutions have occurred. Many crores of Brahmās have passed away. Many kings have flitted away like particles of dust. Even to a jñānī, the love of the body may arise through the asura (demoniacal) nature. If the asura nature should arise in a wise man, his knowledge of truth becomes fruitless. Should rajas and others generated in us be burnt by the fire of discriminative (divine) wisdom, how can they germinate again? Just as a very intelligent person delights in the shortcomings of another, so if one finds out his own faults (and corrects them) who will not be relieved from bondage? O Lord of munis, only he who has not ātma-jñāna and who is not an emancipated person, longs after siddhis. He attains such siddhis through medicine,¹ (or wealth), mantras, religious works, time and skill. In the eyes of an ātma-jñānī, these siddhis are of no importance. One who has become an ātma-jñānī, one who has his sight solely on ātmā, and one who is content with Ātmā (the higher self) through (his) ātmā (or the lower self), never follows (the dictates of) avidyā. Whatever exists in this world, he knows to be of the nature of avidyā. How then will an ātma-jñānī who has relinquished avidyā be immersed in (or affected by) it. Though medicine, mantras, religious work, time and skill (or mystical

¹ The mystic Hindū Tamil books teem with works on medicine through which the higher siddhis can be developed

expressions) lead to the development of siddhis, yet they cannot in any way help one to attain the seat of Paramātmā. How then can one who is an ātmañāni and who is without his mind be said to long after siddhis, while all the actions of his desires are controlled ?”

CHAPTER IV

On another occasion Nīdāgha asked Lord Ṛbhu to enlighten him as to the characteristics of jīvanmukti.¹ To which Ṛbhu replied in the affirmative and said the following

“In the seven bhūmikās or (stages of development of wisdom) there are four kinds of jīvanmuktas.² Of these the first stage² is subhechchhā (good desire); the second is vichāranā (inquiry), the third is ṭanumānasī (or pertaining to the thinned mind), the fourth is satṭvāpaṭti (the attainment of satṭva), the fifth is asamsakti (non-attachment); the sixth is the padārṭhabhāvanā (analysis of objects) and the seventh is the ṭurya (fourth or final stage). The bhūmikā which is of the form of pranava (Om) is formed of (or is divided into) akāra—A, ukāra—U, makāra—M, and ardhamātrā. Akāra and others are of four kinds on account of the difference of sthūla (gross), sūkshma (subtle), bīja (seed or causal), and sākshī (witness). Their avasthās are four—waking, dreaming, dreamless sleeping and turya (fourth). He who is in (or the entity that identifies itself with) the waking state in the gross amsa (essence or part) of akāra is named Viśva; in the subtle essence, he is termed Taijasa, in the bīja essence, he is termed Prājña, and in the sākshī essence, he is termed Turya.

“He who is in the dreaming state (or the entity which identifies itself with the dreaming state) in the gross essence of ukāra is Viśva, in the subtle essence, he is termed Taijasa, in the bīja essence, is termed Prājña, and in the sākshī essence, he is termed Turya.

“He who is in the sushupti state in the gross essence of makāra is termed Viśva, in the subtle essence, Taijasa, in the

¹ Jīvanmukti is emancipation. Jīvanmuktas are those that have attained emancipation.

² This word and others are explained in full later on in the text.

bīja essence, he is termed Prājña, and in the sākshī essence, he is termed Turya

"He who is in turya state in the gross essence of arđhamātrū is termed Turya-viśva. In the subtle, he is termed Taijasa; in the bīja essence, he is termed Prājña; and in the sākshī essence, he is termed Turya-turya.

"The turya essence of akāra is (or embraces) the first, second and third (bhūmikās or stages of the seven). The turya essence of ukāra embraces the fourth bhūmikā. The turya essence of makāra embraces the fifth bhūmikā. The turya essence of arđhamātrū is the sixth stage. Beyond this, is the seventh stage

"One who functions in the (first) three bhūmikās is called mumukshu, one who functions in the fourth bhūmikā is called a brahmanvīt, one who functions in the fifth bhūmikā is called a brahmanvidvara, one who functions in the sixth bhūmikā is called a brahmanvidvaiya, and one in the seventh bhūmikā is called a brahmanvidvarishtha. With reference to this, there are ślokaś They are

"'Subhechchhā is said to be the first jñānabhūmī (or stage of wisdom), vichūranā, the second, tanumānasī, the third, saṭtvāpatti, the fourth, then come asamsakti as the fifth, padārthabhāvanā as the sixth and turya as the seventh.'

"The desire that arises in one through sheer vairāgya (after resolving) 'Shall I be ignorant? I will be seen by the Sāstras and the wise (or I will study the books and be with the wise)' is termed by the wise as Subhechchhā. The association with the wise and Sāstras and the following of the right path preceding the practice of indifference is termed vichāranā. That stage wherein the hankering after sensual objects is thinned through the first and second stages is said to be tanumānasī. That stage wherein having become indifferent to all sensual objects through the exercise in the (above) three stages, the purified chitta rests on Ātmā which is of the nature of saṭ is called saṭtvāpatti. The light (or manifestation) of saṭtvaguna that is firmly rooted (in one) without any desire for the fruits of actions through the practice in the above four stages

is termed *asamsakti*. That stage wherein through the practice in the (above) five stages one, having found delight in *Ātmā*, has no conception of the internals or externals (though before him) and engages in actions only when impelled to do so by others is termed *padārthabhāvanā*, the sixth stage. The stage wherein after exceedingly long practice in the (above) six stages one is (immovably) fixed in the contemplation of *Ātmā* alone without the difference (of the universe) is the seventh stage called *ṭurya*. The three stages beginning with *Śubhecchā* are said to be attained with (or amidst) differences and non-differences (Because) the universe one sees in the waking state he thinks to be really existent. When the mind is firmly fixed on the non-dual One and the conception of duality is put down, then he sees this universe as a dream through his union with the fourth stage. As the autumnal cloud being dispersed vanishes, so this universe perishes. O *Nidāgha*, be convinced that such a person has only *sattva* remaining. Then having ascended the fifth stage called *sushuptipada* (dreamless sleeping seat), he remains simply in the non-dual state, being freed from all the various differences. Having always in vision though ever participating in external actions, those that are engaged in the practice of this (sixth stage) are seen like one sleeping when fatigued (*viz*, being freed from all affinities). (Lastly) the seventh stage which is the ancient and which is called *gūḍhasupti*¹ is generally attained. Then one remains in that secondless state without fear and with his consciousness almost annihilated where there is neither *sat* nor *asaṭ*, neither self nor not-self. Like an empty pot in the *ākāś*, there is void both within and without, like a filled vessel in the midst of an ocean, he is full both within and without. Do not become either the knower or the known. May you become the Reality which remains after all thoughts are given up. Having discarded (all the distinctions of) the seer, the sight and the seen with their affinities, meditate solely upon *Ātmā* which shines as the supreme Light.

"He is said to be a *jīvanmukṭa* (emancipated person) in whom, though participating in the material concerns of the

¹ Lit., secret sleep

world, the universe is not seen to exist like the invisible ākās'. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa, the light of whose mind never sets or rises in misery or happiness, and who does not seek to change what happens to him (*viz.*, either to diminish his misery or increase his happiness). He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa who though in his sushupti is awake and to whom the waking state is unknown and whose wisdom is free from the affinities (of objects).

"He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa whose heart is pure like ākās', though acting (as if) in consonance to love, hatred, fear and others. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa who has not the conception of his being the actor and whose buddhi is not attached to material objects, whether he performs actions or not. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa, of whom people are not afraid, who is not afraid of people and who has given up joy, anger and fear. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa who, though participating in all the illusory objects, is cool amidst them and is a full Ātmā, (being) as if they belonged to others. O muni, he is called a jīvanmukṭa who, having eradicated all the desires of his chitta, is (fully) content with me who am the Ātmā of all. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa who rests with an unshaken mind in that all pure abode which is Chinmātrā and free from all the modifications of chitta. He is said to be a jīvanmukṭa in whose chitta do not dawn (the distinctions of) the universe, I, he, thou and others that are visible and unreal. Through the path of the guru and Śāstras, enter soon Saṭ—the Brahman that is immutable, great, full and without objects—and be firmly seated there. Śiva alone is Guru; Śiva alone is Vedas, Śiva alone is Lord; Śiva alone is I; Śiva alone is all. There is none other than Śiva. The undaunted Brāhmaṇa having known Him (Śiva) should attain wisdom. One need not utter many words as they but injure the organ of speech.

"(The Rṣi) Suka¹ is a mukṭa (emancipated person). (The Rṣi) Vāmaḍeva is a mukṭa. There are no others (who have attained emancipation) than through these (*viz.*, the two

¹ Suka is a Rṣi, the son of the present Vyāsa and the narrator of *Bhāgavata Purāṇa*. Vāmaḍeva is also a Rṣi.

paths of these two Rshis) Those brave men who follow the path of Śuka in this world become sadyomuktas (*viz*, emancipated) immediately after (the body wears away), while those who always follow the path of vedānta in this world are subject again and again to rebirths and attain krama (gradual) emancipation, through yoga, sāṅkhya and karmas associated with saṭtva (guṇa) Thus there are two paths laid down by the Lord of Devas (*viz*,) the Śuka and Vāmadeva paths The Śuka path is called the bird's path while the Vāmadevā path is called the ant's path¹ Those persons that have cognised the true nature of their Ātmā through the mandatory and prohibitory injunctions (of the Vedas), the inquiry into (the true meaning of) mahāvākyas (the sacred sentences of the Vedas), the samādhi of sāṅkhya yoga or asamprañāta samādhi² and that have thereby purified themselves, attain the supreme seat through the Śuka path Having, through hathayoga³ practice with the pain caused by yama, postures, etc., become liable to the ever recurring obstacles caused by animā and other (siddhis) and having not obtained good results, one is born again in a great family and practises yoga through his previous (kārmic) affinities Then through the practice of yoga during many lives, he attains salvation (*viz*,) the supreme seat of Viṣṇu through the Vāmadeva path Thus there are two paths that lead to the attainment of Brahman and that are beneficent The one confers instantaneous salvation and the other confers gradual salvation

"To one that sees (all) as the one (Brahman), where is delusion? Where is sorrow? Those that are under the eyes of those whose buddhi is solely occupied with the truth (of Brahman) that is the end of all experience are released from all heinous sins All beings inhabiting heaven and earth that fall under the vision of Brahman are at once emancipated from the sins committed during many crores of births"

¹ Bird's path, like birds which fly at once to the place they intend to go, Ant's path, like ants which move slowly.

² It is that of intense self absorption when one loses his consciousness of individuality

³ Hathayoga, as stated in Patañjali's Yoga Philosophy

CHAPTER V

Then Nidāgha asked Lord Rbhu to enlighten him as to the rules (to be observed) in the practice of Yoga. Accordingly He (the Lord) said thus:

“The body is composed of the five elements. It is filled with five maṇḍalas (spheres)¹. That which is hard is Prṥhivī (earth), one of them, that which is liquid is Āpas; that which is bright is Tejas (fire), motion is the property of Vāyu, that which pervades everywhere is Ākāś. All these should be known by an aspirant after Yoga. Through the blowing of Vāyu-maṇḍala in this body, (there are caused) 21,600 breaths every day and night. If there is a diminution in the Prṥhivīmaṇḍala, there arise folds in the body, if there is diminution in the essence of Āpas, there arises gradually greyiness of hair, if there is diminution in the essence of Tejas, there is loss of hunger and lustre, if there is diminution in the essence of Vāyu, there is incessant tremor, if there is diminution in the essence of Ākāś, one dies. The jīviṭa (*viz.*, Piṇḍa) which possesses these elements having no place to rest (in the body) owing to the diminution of the elements, rises up like birds flying up in the air. It is for this reason that it is called Udyāna (*lit.*, flying up). With reference to this, there is said to be a bandha (binding, also meaning a posture called Uddiyānabandha, by which this flight can be arrested). This Uddiyānabandha² is to (or does away with) death, as a lion to an elephant. Its experience is in the body, as also the bandha. Its binding (in the body) is hurtful. If there is agitation of Agni (fire) within the belly, then there will be caused much of pain. Therefore this (Uddiyānabandha) should not be practised by one who is hungry or who has urgency to make water or void excrement. He should take

¹ There are either the five elements or Mūlādhāra (sacral plexus), Svādhishthāna (epigastric or prostatic plexus), Manipūraka (solar plexus), Anāhata (cardiac plexus) and Viśuddhi (laryngeal or pharyngeal plexus). These are situated respectively in the anus, the genital organs, navel, heart and throat. The last or the sixth plexus is omitted here, as the five plexuses mentioned above correspond to the five elements. This chapter treating of yoga is very mystical.

² This is one of the postures treated of in *Sūtra Samhita* and other books.

many times in small quantities proper and moderate food. He should practise Mantrayoga,¹ Layayoga and Hathayoga, through mild, middling and transcendental methods (or periods) respectively. Laya, Mantra, and Hathayogas have each (the same) eight subservients. They are yama, niyama, āsana, prāṇāyāma, pratyāhāra, dhāraṇā, dhyāna, and samādhi² (Of these), yama is of ten kinds. They are non-injury, truth, non-coveting, continence, compassion, straightforwardness, patience, courage, moderate eating, and purity (bodily and mental). Niyama is of ten kinds. They are tapas (religious austerities), contentment, belief in the existence of God or Vedas, charity, worship of Īśvara (or God), listening to the exposition of religious doctrines, modesty, a (good) intellect, japa (muttering of prayers), and vrata (religious observances). There are eleven postures beginning with chakra. Chakra, padma, kūrma, mayūra, kukkuta, vīra, svastika, bhadra, śiṃha, mukta, and gomukha, are the postures enumerated by the knowers of yoga. Placing the left ankle on the right thigh and the right ankle on the left thigh, and keeping the body erect (while sitting) is the posture "Chakra". Prāṇāyāma should be practised again and again in the following order, *viz*, inspiration, restraint of breath and expiration. The prāṇāyāma is done through the nādis (nerves). Hence it is called the nādis themselves.

"The body of every sentient being is ninety-six digits long. In the middle of the body, two digits above the anus and two digits below the sexual organ, is the centre of the body (called Mūlādhāra or sacral plexus). Nine digits above the genitals, there is kanda of nādis which revolves oval-shaped, four digits high and four digits broad. It is surrounded by fat, flesh, bone, and blood. In it, is situate a nādi-chakra (wheel of nerves) having twelve spokes. Kundalī by which this body is supported is there. It is covering by its face the Brahmarandhra (*viz*, Brahmā's hole) of Sushumnā. (By the side) of Sushumnā dwell the nādis

¹ There are four kinds of yoga—the fourth being Rājayoga. Mantrayoga is that in which perfection is obtained through the pronunciation of mantras. Layayoga is that in which perfection is obtained through laya (absorption).

² They mean respectively forbearance, religious restraint, posture, restraint of breath, subjugation of the senses, contemplation, meditation, and intense self-absorption.

Alambusā and Kuhūh. In the next two (spokes) are Vārunā and Yasasvinī. On the spoke south of Sushumnā is, in regular course, Piṅgalā. On the next two spokes, are Pūsha and Payasvinī. On the spoke west of Sushumnā is the nāḍi called Sarasvatī. On the next two spokes are Śāṅkhinī and Gāndhārī. To the north of Sushumnā dwells Idā; in the next is Hastijihvā; in the next is Viśvodarā. In these spokes of the wheel, the twelve nāḍis carry the twelve vāyus from left to right (to the different parts of the body). The nāḍis are like (i.e., woven like the warp and woof of) cloth. They are said to have different colours. The central portion of the cloth (here the collection of the nāḍis) is called the Nābhichakra (navel plexus). Jvalantī, Nādarūpiṇī, Pararandhrā, and Sushumnā are called the (basic) supports of nāḍa (spiritual sound). These four nāḍis are of ruby colour. The central portion of Brahmarandhra is again and again covered by Kundalī. Thus ten vāyus move in these nāḍis. A wise man who has understood the course of nāḍis and vāyus should, after keeping his neck and body erect with his mouth closed, contemplate immovably upon Turyaka (Ātmā) at the tip of his nose, in the centre of his heart and in the middle of bindu,¹ and should see, with a tranquil mind through the (mental) eyes, the nectar flowing from there. Having closed the anus and drawn up the vāyu and caused it to rise through (the repetition of) pranava (Om), he should complete with Śrī bīja. He should contemplate upon his Ātmā as Śrī (or Parīśakti) and as being bathed by nectar. This is kālavañchana (lit., time illusion). It is said to be the most important of all. Whatever is thought of by the mind is accomplished by the mind itself. (Then) agni (fire) will flame in jala (water) and in the flame (of agni) will arise the branches and blossoms. Then the words uttered and the actions done regarding the universe, are not in vain. By checking the bindu in the path, by making the fire flame up in the water and by causing the water to dry up, the body is made firm. Having contracted simultaneously the anus and yoni (the womb) united together, he should draw up Apāna and unite with it Savāna. He

¹ Lit. gem

should contemplate upon his Ātmā as Śiva and then as being bathed by nectar. In the central part of each spoke, the yogin should commence to concentrate bala (will or strength). He should try to go up by the union of Prāṇa and Apāna. This most important yoga brightens up in the body the path of siddhis. As a dam across the water serves as an obstacle to the floods, so it should ever be known by the yogins that the chhāyā of the body is (to jīva). This bandha is said of all nādis. Through the grace of this bandha, the Devatā (goddess) becomes visible. This bandha of four feet serves as a check to the three paths. This brightens up the path through which the siddhas obtained (their siddhis). If with Prāṇa is made to rise up soon Uḍāna, this bandha checking all nādis goes up. This is called Samputayoga or Mūlabandha. Through the practising of this yoga, the three bandhas are mastered. By practising day and night intermittingly or at any convenient time, the vāyu will come under his control. With the control of vāyu, agni (the gastric fire) in the body will increase daily. With the increase of agni, food, etc., will be easily digested. Should food be properly digested, there is increase of rasa (essence of food). With the daily increase of rasa, there is the increase of dhātus (spiritual substances). With the increase of dhātus, there is the increase of wisdom in the body. Thus all the sins collected together during many crores of births are burnt up.

“In the centre of the anus and the genitals, there is the triangular Mūlādhāra. It illumines the seat of Śiva of the form of bindu. There is located the Parāśakti named kundalinī. From that seat, vāyu arises. From that seat, agni becomes increased. From that seat, bindu originates and nāda becomes increased. From that seat, Hamsa is born. From that seat, manas is born. The six chakras beginning with Mūlādhāra are said to be the seat of Śakti (Goddess). From the neck to the top of the head is said to be the seat of Sambhu (Śiva). To the nādis, the body is the support (or vehicle), to Prāṇa, the nādis are the support, to jīva, Prāṇa is the dwelling place, to Hamsa, jīva is the support, to Śakti, Hamsa is the seat and the locomotive and fixed universe.

“Being without distraction and of a calm mind, one should practise prānāyāma. Even a person who is well-skilled in the practice of the three bandhas should try always to cognise with a true heart that Principle which should be known and is the cause of all objects and their attributes. Both expiration and inspiration should (be stopped and made to) rest in restraint of breath (alone). He should depend solely on Brahman which is the highest aim of all visibles. (The giving out of) all external objects is said to be rechaka (expiration). The (taking in of the) spiritual knowledge of the Sūtras is said to be pūraka (inspiration) and (the keeping to oneself of) such knowledge is said to be kumbhaka (or restraint of breath). He is an emancipated person who practises thus such a chitta. There is no doubt about it. Through kumbhaka, it (the mind) should be always taken up, and through kumbhaka alone it should be filled up within. It is only through kumbhaka that kumbhaka should be firmly mastered. Within it is Paramasiva. That (vāyu) which is non-motionless should be shaken again through kantha-mudrā (throat-posture). Having checked the course of vāyu, having become perfect in the practice of expiration and restraint of breath and having planted evenly on the ground the two hands and the two feet, one should pierce the four seats through vāyu through the three yogas. He should shake Mahāmeru with the (aid of) prakotis (forces)¹ at the mouth of vāyu. The two putas (cavities) being drawn, vāyu throbs quickly. The union of moon, sun and agni should be known on account of nectar. Through the motion of Meru, the devatās who stay in the centre of Meru move. At first in his Brahma-granṭhi, there is produced soon a hole (or passage). Then having pierced Brahma-granṭhi, he pierces Vishnu-granṭhi. then he pierces Rudra-granṭhi. Then to the yogin comes vedha² (piercing) through his liberation from the impurities of delusion, through the religious ceremonies (performed) in various births, through the grace of gurus and devatās and through the practice of yoga.

¹ It is mystic here and later on

² He has pierced all the granṭhis and hence becomes a master of vedha

“In the maṇḍala (sphere or region) of Sushumnā (situated between Idā and Pīṅgalā, vāyu should be made to rise up through the feature known as Mudrā-bandha. The short pronunciation (of Pranava) frees (one) from sins its long pronunciation confers (on one) moksha. So also its pronunciation in āpyāyana or pluṭa svara (tone). He is a knower of Veda, who through the above-mentioned three ways of pronunciation knows the end of Pranava which is beyond the power of speech, like the never-ceasing flow of oil or the long-drawn bell-sound. The short svara goes to bindu. The long svara goes to brahmarandhra the pluṭa to dvādaśānta (twelfth centre). The mantras should be uttered on account of getting mantra siddhis. This Pranava (Om) will remove all obstacles. It will remove all sins. Of this, are four bhūmikās (states) predicated, *viz*, ārambha, ghata, parichaya, and nishpaṭṭi. Ārambha is that state in which one having abandoned external karmas performed by the three organs (mind, speech and body), is always engaged in mental karma only. It is said by the wise that the ghata state is that in which vāyu having forced an opening on the western side and being full, is firmly fixed there. Parichaya state is that in which vāyu is firmly fixed to ākāś, neither associated with jīva nor not, while the body is immovable. It is said that nishpaṭṭi state is that in which there take place creation and dissolution through Ātmā or that state in which a yogin having become a jīvanmukta performs yoga without effort.

“Whoever recites this Upanishad becomes immaculate like agni. Like vāyu, he becomes pure. He becomes freed from the sin of drinking alcohol. He becomes freed from the sins of the theft of gold. He becomes a jīvanmukta. This is what is said by the Rgveda. Like the eye pervading the ākāś (seeing without effort everything above), a wise man sees (always) the supreme seat of Viṣṇu. The brāhmanas who have always their spiritual eyes wide open praise and illuminate in diverse ways the spiritual seat of Viṣṇu.

“Om, thus is the Upanishad.”

¹ There are the three kinds of pronunciation with 1 mātrā, 2 mātrās and 3 matras. They are respectively hrasva, dīrgha and pluṭa which may be translated as short, long and very long.

MAṆDALABRĀHMAṆA-UPANISHAD¹

OF

S'UKLA-YAJURVEDA

BRĀHMAṆA I

OM. The great muni Yājñavalkya went to Ādityaloka (the sun's world) and saluting him (the Purusha of the sun) said: "O reverend sir, describe to me the Ātma-*ṭaṭṭva* (the *ṭaṭṭva* or truth of Ātmā) "

(To which,) Nārāyaṇa (*viz*, the Purusha of the sun) replied "I shall describe the eightfold yoga together with Jñāna. The conquering of cold and heat as well as hunger and sleep, the preserving of (sweet) patience and unruffledness ever and the restraining of the organs (from sensual objects)—all these come under (or are) yama. Devotion to one's guru, love of the true path, enjoyment of objects producing happiness, internal satisfaction, freedom from association, living in a retired place, the controlling of the manas and the not longing after the fruits of actions and a state of *vairāgya*—all these constitute *niyama*. The sitting in any posture pleasant to one and clothed in tatters (or bark) is prescribed for *āsana* (posture). Inspiration, restraint of breath and expiration, which have respectively 16, 64 and 32 (*mātrās*) constitute *prāṇāyāma* (restraint of breath) The restraining of the mind from the objects of

¹ Mandala means sphere. As the Purusha in the mandala or sphere of the sun gives out this Upanishad to Yājñavalkya, hence it is called Mandala Brāhmaṇa. It is very mystic. There is a book called *Rājayoga Bhāṣya* which is a commentary thereon, in the light of it which is by some attributed to Śrī Sankarāchārya, notes are given herein.

senses is *pratyāhāra* (subjugation of the senses) The contemplation of the oneness of consciousness in all objects is *dhyaṇa* The mind having been drawn away from the objects of the senses, the fixing of the *chaitanya* (consciousness) (on one alone) is *dhāraṇā* The forgetting of oneself in *dhyaṇa* is *samādhi*. He who thus knows the eight subtle parts of yoga attains salvation

“The body has five stains (*viz.*) passion, anger, out-breathing, fear, and sleep The removal of these can be effected respectively by absence of *sankalpa*, forgiveness, moderate food, carefulness, and a spiritual sight of *taṭṭvas* In order to cross the ocean of *samsāra* where sleep and fear are the serpents, injury, etc., are the waves, *trshnā* (thirst) is the whirlpool, and wife is the mire, one should adhere to the subtle path and overstepping *taṭṭva*¹ and other *gunas* should look out for *Tāraka*² *Tāraka* is Brahman which being in the middle of the two eyebrows, is of the nature of the spiritual effulgence of *Sachchidānanda* The (spiritual) seeing through the three *lakshyas* (or the three kinds of introvision) is the means to It (Brahman). *Sushumnā* which is from the *mūlādhāra* to *brahmarandhra* has the radiance of the sun In the centre of it, is *kundalīnī* shining like crores of lightning and subtle as the thread in the lotus-stalk *Tamas* is destroyed there Through seeing it, all sins are destroyed When the two ears are closed by the tips of the forefingers, a *phūtkāra* (or booming) sound is heard When the mind is fixed on it, it sees a blue light between the eyes as also in the heart. (This is *anṭarlakshya* or internal introvision) In the *bahīrlakshya* (or external introvision) one sees in order before his nose at distance of 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 digits, the space of blue colour, then a colour resembling *syāma* (indigo-black) and then shining as *rakṣa* (red) wave and then with the two *pīta* (yellow and orange red) colours. Then he is a *yogin* When one looks at the external space, moving

¹ Comm. Rising above the seven *Prāṇas*, one should with introvision cognise in the region of *Ārās*, *Tamas* and should then make *Tamas* get into *Rajas*, *Rajas* into *Sattva*, *Sattva* into *Nārāyaṇa* and *Nārāyaṇa* into the Supreme One

² *Tāraka* is from *tr*, to cross, as it enables one to cross *samsāra*. The higher vision is here said to take place in a centre between the eyebrows—probably in the brain

the eyes and sees streaks of light at the corners of his eyes, then his vision can be made steady. When one sees jyotiṣ (spiritual light) above his head 12 digits in length, then he attains the state of nectar. In the madhyalakshya (or the middle one), one sees the variegated colours of the morning as if the sun, the moon and the fire had joined together in the ākāś that is without them. Then he comes to have their nature (of light). Through practice, he becomes one with ākāś, devoid of all guṇas and peculiarities. At first ākāś with its shining stars becomes to him Para-ākāś as dark as tāmas itself, and he becomes one with Para-ākāś shining with stars and deep as tāmas. (Then) he becomes one with Mahā-ākāś resplendent (as) with the fire of the deluge. Then he becomes one with Tatva-ākāś, lighted with the brightness which is the highest and the best of all. Then he becomes one with Sūrya-ākāś (sun-ākāś) brightened by a crore of suns. By practising thus, he becomes one with them. He who knows them becomes thus.

“Know that yoga is twofold through its division into the pūrva (earlier) and the uṭṭara (later). The earlier is tāraka and the later is amanaska (the mindless). Tāraka is divided into mūrṭi (with limitation) and amūrṭi (without limitation). That is mūrṭi tāraka which goes to the end of the senses (or exists till the senses are conquered). That is amūrṭi tāraka which goes beyond the two eyebrows (above the senses). Both these should be performed through manas. Antardṛṣṭi (internal vision) associated with manas comes to aid tāraka. Tejas (spiritual light) appears in the hole between the two eyebrows. This tāraka is the earlier one. The later is amanaska. The great jyotiṣ (light)¹ is above the root of the palate. By seeing it, one gets the siddhis aṇimā, etc. Sāmbhavamudrā occurs when the lakshya (spiritual vision) is internal while the (physical) eyes are seeing externally without winking. This is the great science which is concealed in all the tantras. When this is known, one does not stay in saṃsāra. Its worship (or practice) gives salvation. Antarlakshya is of

¹ The commentator puts it as 12 digits above the root of the palate—perhaps the Dvādasānta or twelfth centre corresponding to the pituitary body.

the nature of Jalajyotiṣ (or waterjyotiṣ). It is known by the great Rshis and is invisible both to the internal and external senses

“Sahasrāra (*viz*, the thousand-petalled lotus of the pineal gland) Jalajyotiṣ¹ is the antarlakshya. Some say the form of Purusha in the cave of buddhi beautiful in all its parts is antarlakshya. Some again say that the all-quiescent Nīlakantha accompanied by Umā (his wife) and having five mouths and latent in the midst of the sphere in the brain is antarlakshya. Whilst others say that the Purusha of the dimension of a thumb is antarlakshya. A few again say antarlakshya is the One Self made supreme through introvision in the state of a jīvanmukta. All the different statements above made pertain to Ātmā alone. He alone is a Brahmanishtha who sees that the above lakshya is the pure Ātmā. The jīva which is the twenty-fifth tattva, having abandoned the twenty-four tattvas, becomes a jīvanmukta through the conviction that the twenty-sixth tattva (*viz*,) Paramātmā is ‘I’ alone. Becoming one with antarlakshya (Brahman) in the emancipated state by means of antarlakshya (introvision), jīva becomes one with the partless sphere of Paramākāś’

“Thus ends the first Brāhmaṇa”

BRĀHMAṆA II

Then Yājñavalkya asked the Purusha in the sphere of the sun “O Lord, antarlakshya has been described many times, but it has never been understood by me (clearly). Pray describe it to me.” He replied “It is the source of the five elements, has the lustre of many (streaks of) lightning, and has four seats having (or rising from) ‘That’ (Brahman). In its midst, there arises the manifestation of tattva. It is very hidden and unmanifested. It can be known (only) by one who has got into the boat of jñāna. It is the object of both bahir and antar (external and internal) lakshyas. In its midst is absorbed

¹ The commentator to support the above that antarlakshya, *viz*, Brahman is jalajyotiṣ quotes the Prānāyāma Gāyatrī which says “Om Āpo-jyotiṣo’asmitam Brahman, etc.”—Āpo jyotiṣ or water-jyotiṣ is Brahman

the whole world It is the vast partless universe beyond Nāda, Bindu and Kalā. Above it (*viz*, the sphere of agni) is the sphere of the sun, in its midst is the sphere of the nectary moon, in its midst is the sphere of the partless Brahma-tejas (or the spiritual effulgence of Brahman) It has the brightness of Sūkla (white light)¹ like the ray of lightning It alone has the characteristic of Sāmbhavī In seeing this, there are three kinds of drshti (sight), *viz*, amā (the new moon), praṭipat (the first day of lunar fortnight), and pūrṇimā (the full moon). The sight of amā is the one (seen) with closed eyes That with half opened eyes is praṭipat, while that with fully opened eyes is pūrṇimā Of these, the practice of pūrṇimā should be resorted to Its lakshya (or aim) is the tip of the nose Then is seen a deep darkness at the root of the palate By practising thus, a jyotis (light) of the form of an endless sphere is seen This alone is Brahman, the Sachchidānanda When the mind is absorbed in bliss thus naturally produced, then does Sāmbhavī take place She (Sāmbhavī) alone is called Khecharī By practising it (*viz*, the mudrā), a man obtains firmness of mind Through it, he obtains firmness of vāyu The following are the signs first it is seen like a star, then a reflecting (or dazzling) diamond,² then the sphere of full moon, then the sphere of the brightness of nine gems, then the sphere of the midday sun, then the sphere of the flame of agni (fire), all these are seen in order

“(Thus much for the light in pūrva or first stage) Then there is the light in the western direction (in the uttara or second stage) Then the lustres of crystal, smoke, bindu, nāda, kalā, star, firefly, lamp, eye, gold, and nine gems, etc. are seen This alone is the form of Pranava Having united Prāna and Apāna and holding the breath in kumbhaka, one should fix his concentration at the tip of his nose and making shaṇmukhī³ with the fingers of both his hands, one hears

¹ Comm Sūkla is Brahman

² The original is, ‘Vajra-Darpanam’

³ Shaṇmukhī is said to be the process of hearing the internal sound by closing the two ears with the two thumbs, the two eyes with the two forefingers, the two nostrils with the two middle fingers, and the mouth with the remaining two fingers of both hands

the sound of Pranava (Om) in which manas becomes absorbed. Such a man has not even the touch of karma. The karma of (Sandhyāvandana or the daily prayers) is verily performed at the rising or setting of the sun. As there is no rising or setting (but only the ever shining) of the sun of Chit (the higher consciousness) in the heart of a man who knows thus, he has no karma to perform. Rising above (the conception of) day and night through the annihilation of sound and time, he becomes one with Brahman through the all-full jñāna and the attaining of the state of unmanī (the state above manas). Through the state of unmanī, he becomes amanaska (or without manas).

“Not being troubled by any thoughts (of the world) then constitutes the dhyāna¹. The abandoning of all karmas constitutes āvāhana (invocation of god). Being firm in the unshaken (spiritual) wisdom constitutes āsana (posture). Being in the state of unmanī constitutes the pādya (offering of water for washing the feet of god). Preserving the state of amanaska (when manas is offered as sacrifice) constitutes the arghya (offering of water as oblation generally). Being in state of eternal brightness and shoreless nectar constitutes snāna (bathing). The contemplation of Ātmā as present in all constitutes (the application to the idol of) sandal. The remaining in the real state of the drk (spiritual eye) is (the worshipping with) akshata (non-broken rice). The attaining of Chit (consciousness) is (the worshipping with) flower. The real state of agni (fire) of Chit is the dhūpa (burning of incense). The state of the sun of Chit is the dīpa (light waved before the image). The union of one-self with the nectar of full moon is the navēdya (offering of food, etc.)². The immobility in that state (of the ego being one with all) is pradakshina (going round the image). The conception of ‘I am He’ is namaskāra (prostration). The silence (then) is the stuti (praise). The all-contentment (or serenity then) is the visarjana (giving leave to god or finishing worship). (This is

¹ In this paragraph, the higher or secret meaning is given of all actions done in the pūjā or worship of God in the Hindū houses as well as temples. Regarding the clothing of the idol which is left out here, the commentator explains it as āvarana or screen.

² Here also the commentator brings in nirājana or the waving of the light before the image. That is according to him, the idea, “I am the self-shining”

the worship of Ātmā by all Rāja-yogins). He who knows this knows all.

“When the triputī¹ are thus dispelled, he becomes the kaivalya jyotiṣ without bhāva (existence) or abhāva (non-existence), full and motionless, like the ocean without the tides or like the lamp without the wind. He becomes a brahmayit (knower of Brahman) by cognising the end of the sleeping state, even while in the waking state. Though the (same) mind is absorbed in sushupti as also in samādhi, there is much difference between them. (In the former case) as the mind is absorbed in tamas, it does not become the means of salvation, (but) in samādhi as the modifications of tamas in him are rooted away, the mind raises itself to the nature of the Partless. All that is no other than Sākshi-Chaitanya (witness-consciousness or the Higher Self) into which the absorption of the whole universe takes place, inasmuch as the universe is but a delusion (or creation) of the mind and is therefore not different from it. Though the universe appears perhaps as outside of the mind, still it is unreal. He who knows Brahman and who is the sole enjoyer of brāhmic bliss which is eternal and has dawned once (for all in him)—that man becomes one with Brahman. He in whom sankalpa perishes has got mukti in his hand. Therefore one becomes an emancipated person through the contemplation of Paramātmā. Having given up both bhāva and abhāva, one becomes a jīvanmukta by leaving off again and again in all states jñāna (wisdom) and jñeya (object of wisdom), dhyāna (meditation) and dhyeya (object of meditation), lakshya (the aim) and alakshya (non-aim), drśya (the visible) and adrśya (the non-visible and ūha (reasoning) and apoha (negative reasoning).² He who knows this knows all

“There are five avasthās (states), viz jāgrat (waking), svapna (dreaming), sushupti (dreamless sleeping), the turya (fourth) and turyāṭīta (that beyond the fourth). The jīva (ego) that is engaged in the waking state becomes attached to the pravṛtti (worldly) path and is the participator of naraka (hell) as the

¹ The Triputī are the three, the knower, the known and the knowledge. Comm. Dhyāna and others stated before wherein the three distinctions are made.

² Ūha and apoha—the consideration of the pros and cons.

fruit of sins. He desires svarga (heaven) as the fruit of his virtuous actions. This very same person becomes (afterwards) indifferent to all these saying, "Enough of the births tending to actions, the fruits of which tend to bondage till the end of this mundane existence." Then he pursues the nivṛtṭi (return) path with a view to attain emancipation. And this person then takes refuge in a spiritual instructor in order to cross this mundane existence. Giving up passion and others, he does only those he is asked to do. Then having acquired the four sādhanas (means to salvation), he attains, in the middle of the lotus of his heart, the Reality of antarlakshya that is but the Saṭ of Lord and begins to recognise (or recollect) the bliss of Brahman which he had left (or enjoyed) in his sushupti state. At last he attains this state of discrimination (thus) 'I think I am the non-dual One only. I was in ajñāna for some time (in the waking state and called therefore Viśva). I became somehow (or involuntarily) a Taijasa (in the dreaming state) through the reflection (in that state) of the affinities of the forgotten waking state, and now I am a Prājña through the disappearance of those two states. Therefore I am one only. I (appear) as more than one through the differences of state and place. And there is nothing of differentiation of class besides me.' Having expelled even the smack of the difference (of conception) between 'I' and 'That' through the thought 'I am the pure and the secondless Brahman', and having attained the path of salvation which is of the nature of Parabrahman, after having become one with It through the dhyāna of the sun's sphere as shining with himself, he becomes fully ripened for getting salvation. Sankalpa and others are the causes of the bondage of the mind, and the mind devoid of these becomes fit for salvation. Possessing such a mind free from all (sankalpa, etc.) and withdrawing himself from the outer world of sight and others and so keeping himself out of the odour of the universe, he looks upon all the world as Ātmā, abandons the conception of 'I', thinks 'I am Brahman' and considers all these as Ātmā. Through these, he becomes one who has done his duty.

“The yogin is one that has realised Brahman that is all-full beyond *ṭurya*. They (the people) extol him as Brahman, and becoming the object of the praise of the whole world, he wanders over different countries. Placing the bindu in the *ākāś* of *Paramātmā* and pursuing the path of the partless bliss produced by the pure, secondless, stainless, and innate yoga sleep of *amanaska*, he becomes an emancipated person. Then the yogin becomes immersed in the ocean of bliss. When compared to it, the bliss of Indra and others is very little. He who gets this bliss is the supreme yogin.

“Thus ends the second Brāhmaṇa.”

BRĀHMAṆA III

The great sage Yājñavalkya then asked the Purusha in the sphere (of the sun) “O Lord, though the nature of *amanaska* has been defined (by you), yet I forget it (or do not understand it clearly). Therefore pray explain it again to me.” Accordingly the Purusha said: “This *amanaska* is a great secret. By knowing this, one becomes a person who has done his duty. One should look upon it as *Paramātmā*, associated with *Sāmbhavi-mudrā* and should know also all those that can be known through a (thorough) cognition of them. Then seeing Parabrahman in his own *Ātmā* as the Lord of all, the immeasurable, the birthless, the auspicious, the supreme *ākāś*, the supportless, the secondless the only goal of *Brahmā*, *Vishnu* and *Rudra* and the cause of all and assuring himself that he who plays in the cave (of the heart) is such a one, he should raise himself above the dualities of existence and non-existence, and knowing the experience of the unmani of his *manas*, he then attains the state of Parabrahman which is motionless as a lamp in a windless place, having reached the ocean of brāhmic bliss by means of the river of *amanaska-yoga* through the destruction of all his senses. Then he resembles a dry tree. Having lost all (idea of) the universe through the disappearance of growth, sleep, disease, expiration and inspiration, his body being always steady, he comes to have a supreme quiescence, being devoid of the movements of

his *manas* and becomes absorbed in *Paramātmā*. The destruction of *manas* takes place after the destruction of the collective senses, like the cow's udder (that shrivels up) after the milk has been drawn. It is this that is *amanaska*. By following this, one becomes always pure and becomes one that has done his duty, having been filled with the partless bliss by means of the path of *tāraka-yoga* through the initiation into the sacred sentences 'I am *Paramātmā*,' 'That art thou,' 'I am thou alone,' 'Thou art I alone,' etc.

"When his *manas* is immersed in the *ākāś* and he becomes all-full, and when he attains the *unmanī* state, having abandoned all his collective senses, he conquers all sorrows and impurities through the partless bliss, having attained the fruits of *kaivalya*, ripened through the collective merits gathered in all his previous lives and thinking always 'I am Brahman,' becomes 'one that has done his duty. 'I am thou alone. There is no difference between thee and me owing to the fullness of *Paramātmā*.' Saying thus, he (the *Puruṣa* of the sun) embraced his pupil¹ and made him understand it.

"Thus ends the third *Brāhmaṇa*."

BRĀHMAṆA IV

Then *Yājñavalkya* addressed the *Puruṣa* in the sphere (of the sun) thus: "Pray explain to me in detail the nature of the fivefold division of *ākāś*." He replied: "There are five (*tri*)-*ākāś*, *parākāś*, *mahākāś*, *sūryākāś* and *paramākāś*. That which is of the nature of darkness, both in and out is the first *ākāś*. That which has the fire of the deluge, both in and out is truly *mahākāś*. That which has the brightness of the sun, both in and out is *sūryākāś*. The brightness which is indescribable, all-pervading and of the nature of unrivalled bliss is *paramākāś*. By cognising these according to this description, one becomes of their nature. He is a *yogi* only in name, who does not cognise well the nine *cākras*, the six *ādhāras*, the three *lakṣhyas* and the five *ākāś*. Thus ends the fourth *Brāhmaṇa*."

¹ This is a reference to the secret way of imparting higher truth.

BRĀHMAṆA V

“The manas influenced by worldly objects is liable to bondage, and that (manas) which is not so influenced by these is fit for salvation. Hence all the world becomes an object of chitta, whereas the same chitta when it is supportless and well-ripe in the state of unmanī, becomes worthy of laya (absorption in Brahman). This absorption you should learn from me who am the all-full. I alone am the cause of the absorption of manas. The manas is within the jyotis (spiritual light) which again is latent in the spiritual sound which pertains to the anāhata (heart) sound. That manas which is the agent of creation, preservation, and destruction of the three worlds—that same manas becomes absorbed in that which is the highest seat of Vishnu, through such an absorption, one gets the pure and secondless state, owing to the absence of difference then. This alone is the highest truth. He who knows this, will wander in the world like a lad or an idiot or a demon or a simpleton. By practising this amanaska, one is ever contented, his urine and faeces become diminished, his food becomes lessened he becomes strong in body and his limbs are free from disease and sleep. Then his breath and eyes being motionless, he realises Brahman and attains the nature of bliss.

“That ascetic who is intent on drinking the nectar of Brahman produced by the long practice of this kind of samādhi, becomes a paramahansa (ascetic) or an avadhūta (naked ascetic). By seeing him, all the world becomes pure, and even an illiterate person who serves him is freed from bondage. He (the ascetic) enables the members of his family for one hundred and one generations to cross the ocean of samsāra, and his mother, father, wife, and children—all these are similarly freed. Thus is the Upanishad. Thus ends the fifth Brāhmaṇa.”

NĀḌABINḌU-UPANISHAD

OR

RGVEDA

THE syllable A is considered to be its (the bird Om's) right wing, U, its left; M², its tail; and the ardhamātrā (half-metre) is said to be its head.

The (rājasic and tāmasic) qualities, its feet upwards (to the loins); sattva, its (main) body; ¹ dharma is considered to be its right eye, and adharma, its left.

The Bhūloka is situated in its feet; the Bhuvarloka, in its knees; the Svarloka, in its loins; and the Maharloka, in its navel.

In its heart is situate the Janoloka; the tapoloka in its throat, and the Satyaloka in the centre of the forehead between the eyebrows.

Then the mātrā (or mantra) beyond the Sahasrāra (thousand-rayed) is explained (viz.,) should be explained.

An adept in yoga who besmides the Hamsa (bird) thus (viz., contemplates on Om) is not affected by karmic influences or by tens of crores of sins.⁴

¹ Lit. Sonified.

² The commentator says that M is the last letter and hence tail and ardhamātrā is the head, as it enables one to attain to higher worlds.

³ Another reading is—The qualities are its feet, and Tattva is its body.

⁴ Comm. Since this mantra has already occurred in the preceding Hymn of the same Upanishad, it is simply repeated in the text. The mantra is:

“ॐ नमो भगवते वासुदेवाय
सर्वभूतहितं कर्तव्यम्”

The meaning seems to be—the letters A and U are the two wings of the Hamsa Om in the form of Vishnu which goes to occupy the abode of Brahma, the Universal Supreme God; the syllable ‘Om’ dwelling in the heart of the devotee (of Vasudeva). He goes up to Vasudeva using the words ‘namo’ (salutation) and ‘vasudeva’ (the form of the spiritual soul).

The first mātṛū has agni as its devatā (presiding deity); the second, vāyu as its devatā, the next mātṛā is resplendent like the sphere of the sun and the last, the Ardhamātṛā the wise know as belonging to Varuna (the presiding deity of water).

Each of these mātṛās has indeed three kalās (parts). This is called Omkāra. Know it by means of the dhāranās, viz., concentration on each of the twelve kalās, or the variations of the mātṛās produced by the difference of svaras or intonation). The first mātṛā is called ghoshinī, the second, vidyunmālī (or vidyunmātṛā), the third, paṭanginī, the fourth, vāyaveginī, the fifth, nāmadheya, the sixth, aindrī, the seventh, vaishnavī, the eighth, sānkari, the ninth, mahatī, the tenth, dhṛṭi (dhruva, Calcutta ed.), the eleventh, nārī (maunī, Calcutta ed.), and the twelfth, brāhmī¹

If a person happens to die in the first mātṛā (while contemplating on it), he is born again as a great emperor in Bhārata-varsha.

If in the second mātṛā, he becomes an illustrious yaksha; if in the third mātṛā, a vidyādhara, if in the fourth, a gaṇḍharva (these three being the celestial hosts)

If he happens to die in the fifth, viz., ardhamātṛā, he lives in the world of the moon, with the rank of a deva greatly glorified there.

If in the sixth, he merges into Indra, if in the seventh, he reaches the seat of Vishnu, if in the eighth, Rudra, the Lord of all creatures

If in the ninth, in Maharloka, if in the tenth, in Janoloka (Dhruvaloka, Calcutta ed.), if in the eleventh, Tapoloka, and if in the twelfth, he attains the eternal² state of Brahmā.

¹ Comm. The four mātṛās are subdivided into twelve by their having each three svaras, Uḍātṭa, Anuḍātṭa, and Svariṣṭa. Here the author goes on to give the names of the twelve kalās and shows the method of practising Dhāranā on each. Ghoshinī is that which gives Prajña. Vidyunmālī is that which secures entrance into the loka of Vidyunmālī, the king of the yakshas. Paṭanginī is that which confers the power of movement through air like the bird Paṭanginī. Vāyaveginī is that which gives the power of moving very rapidly. Nāmadheya means that which confers existence in Pitṛloka. Aindrī in Indraloka. Vaishnavī and Sānkari in Vishnu and Siva lokas respectively. Maunī to the loka of Munis or Janoloka and Brāhmī to Brahmaloка.

² Eternal here means the lifetime of Brahmā

That which is beyond these, (*viz.*) Parabrahman which is beyond (the above mātrās), the pure, the all-pervading, beyond kalās, the ever resplendent and the source of all jyōtis (light) should be known

¹ When the mind goes beyond the organs and the gunās and is absorbed, having no separate existence and no mental action, then (the guru) should instruct him (as to his further course of development)

That person always engaged in its contemplation and always absorbed in it should gradually leave off his body (or family) following the course of yoga and avoiding all intercourse with society

Then he, being freed from the bonds of karma and the existence as a jīva and being pure, enjoys the supreme bliss by his attaining of the state of Brahmā ²

O intelligent man, spend your life always in the knowing of the supreme bliss, enjoying the whole of your prārabdha (that portion of past karma now being enjoyed) without making any complaint (of it)

Even after ātma-jñāna (knowledge of Ātmā or Self) has awakened (in one), prārabdha does not leave (him), but he does not feel prārabdha after the dawning of tattva-jñāna ³ (knowledge of tattva or truth) because the body and other things are asat (unreal), like the things seen in a dream to one on awaking from it

That (portion of the) karma which is done in former births, and called prārabdha does not at all affect the person (tattva-jñānī), as there is no rebirth to him

As the body that exists in the dreaming state is untrue, so is this body Where then is rebirth to a thing that is illusory? How can a thing have any existence, when there is no birth (to it) ²

As the clay is the material cause of the pot, so one learns from Vedānta that ajñāna is the material cause of the

¹ Another edition says he should enter through yoga the incomparable and unseen Siva

² Here the Calcutta edition stops

³ Tattva-jñāna is the discrimination of the tattvas of this universe and man Ātma-jñāna—the discrimination of Ātmā or the Self in man.

universe: and when ajñāna ceases to exist, where then is the cosmos?

As a person through illusion mistakes a rope for a serpent, so the fool not knowing Satya (the eternal truth) sees the world (to be true.)

When he knows it to be a piece of rope, the illusory idea of a serpent vanishes.

So when he knows the eternal substratum of everything and all the universe becomes (therefore) void (to him), where then is prārabdha to him, the body being a part of the world? Therefore the word prārabdha is accepted to enlighten the ignorant (only).

Then as prārabdha has, in course of time, worn out, he who is the sound resulting from the union of Praṇava with Brahman who is the absolute effulgence itself, and who is the bestower of all good, shines himself like the sun at the dispersion of the clouds.

The yogin being in the siddhāsana (posture) and practising the vaiṣṇavīmudrā, should always hear the internal sound through the right ear

The sound which he thus practises makes him deaf to all external sounds. Having overcome all obstacles, he enters the turya state within fifteen days

In the beginning of his practice, he hears many loud sounds. They gradually increase in pitch and are heard more and more subtly

At first, the sounds are like those proceeding from the ocean, clouds, kettle-drum, and cataracts. In the middle (stage) those proceeding from maṇḍala (a musical instrument), bell, and horn.

At the last stage, those proceeding from tinkling bells, flute, vīṇā (a musical instrument), and bees. Thus he hears many such sounds more and more subtle

When he comes to that stage when the sound of the great kettle-drum is being heard, he should try to distinguish only sounds more and more subtle.

He may change his concentration from the gross sound to the subtle, or from the subtle to the gross, but he should not allow his mind to be diverted from them towards others

The mind having at first concentrated itself on any one sound fixes firmly to that and is absorbed in it

It (the mind) becoming insensible to the external impressions, becomes one with the sound as milk with water, and then becomes rapidly absorbed in *chidākāś* (the *ākāś* where *Chit* prevails).

Being indifferent towards all objects, the yogin having controlled his passions, should by continual practice concentrate his attention upon the sound which destroys the mind

Having abandoned all thoughts and being freed from all actions, he should always concentrate his attention on the sound, and (then) his *chitta* becomes absorbed in it

Just as the bee drinking the honey (alone) does not care for the odour, so the *chitta* which is always absorbed in sound, does not long for sensual objects, as it is bound by the sweet smell of *nāda* and has abandoned its fitting nature

The serpent *chitta* through listening to the *nāda* is entirely absorbed in it, and becoming unconscious of everything concentrates itself on the sound

The sound serves the purpose of a sharp goad to control the maddened elephant—*chitta* which roves in the pleasure-garden of the sensual objects

It serves the purpose of a snare for binding the deer—*chitta*. It also serves the purpose of a shore to the ocean waves of *chitta*

The sound proceeding from *Pianava* which is Brahman is of the nature of effulgence, the mind becomes absorbed in it; that is the supreme seat of *Vishnu*

The sound exists till there is the *ākāśic* conception (*ākāśa-sankalpa*) Beyond this, is the (*aśabda*) soundless *Para-brahman* which is *Paramātmā*

The mind exists so long as there is sound, but with its (sound's) cessation, there is the state called *unmanī* of *manas* (*viz*, the state of being above the mind)

This sound is absorbed in the *Akshara* (indestructible) and the soundless state is the supreme seat

The mind which along with *Prāna* (*Vāyu*) has (its) *kārmic* affinities destroyed by the constant concentration upon *nāda* is absorbed in the unstained One There is no doubt of it

Many myriads of nādas and many more of bindus—(all) become absorbed in the Brahma-Pranava sound.

Being freed from all states and all thoughts whatever, the yogin remains like one dead. He is a mukṭa. There is no doubt about this.

After that, he does not at any time hear the sounds of conch or dundubhi (large kettle-drum).

The body in the state of unmanī is certainly like a log and does not feel heat or cold, joy or sorrow

The yogin's chitta having given up fame or disgrace is in samādhi above the three states

Being freed from the waking and the sleeping states, he attains to his true state.

When the (spiritual) sight becomes fixed without any object to be seen, when the vāyu (prāna) becomes still without any effort, and when the chitta becomes firm without any support, he becomes of the form of the internal sound of Brahma-Pranava

Such is the Upanishad

YOGAKUNḌALĪ¹-UPANISHAD

OF

KRSHNA-YAJURVEDA

CHAPTER I

CHITṬA² has two causes, vāsanās and (prāna) vāyu. If one of them is controlled, then both are controlled. Of these two, a person should control (prāna) vāyu always through moderate food, postures, and thirdly sakti-chāla.³ I shall explain the nature of these. Listen to it, O Gautama. One should take a sweet and nutritious food,⁴ leaving a fourth (of his stomach) unfilled in order to please Śiva (the patron of yogins). This is called moderate food. Posture herein required is of two kinds, padma and vajra. Placing the two heels over the two opposite thighs (respectively) is the padma (posture) which is the destroyer of all sins. Placing one heel below the mūlakanda⁵ and the other over it and sitting with the neck, body and head erect is the vajra posture. The sakti (mentioned above) is only kundalinī. A wise man should take it up from its place (*viz.*, the navel, upwards) to the middle of the eyebrows. This is called sakti-chāla. In practising it, two things are necessary,

¹ In this Upanishad are stated the ways by which the Kundalinī power is roused from the navel upwards to the middle of the eyebrows and then up to sahasrāra in the head this being one of the important works of an adept to master the forces of nature

² Chitṭa is the sitting aspect of Antahkarana

³ Lit., the moving of sakti which is Kundalinī.

⁴ Regarding the quantity to be taken, one should take of solid food half of his stomach of liquid food, one quarter, leaving the remaining quarter empty for the air to percolate

⁵ Mulakanda is the root of kanda, the genital organ

Sarasvatīchālana¹ and the restraint of prāna (breath) Then through practice, kundalinī (which is spiral) becomes straightened. Of these two, I shall explain to you first Sarasvatī-chālana It is said by the wise of old that Sarasvatī is no other than Arundhatī² It is only by rousing her up that kundalinī is roused. When prāna (breath) is passing through (one's) Idā (left nostril), he should assume firmly padma-posture and should lengthen (inwards) 4 digits the ākās of 12 digits.³ Then the wise man should bind the (sarasvatī) nādi by means of this lengthened (breath) and holding firmly together (both his ribs near the navel) by means of the forefingers and thumbs of both hands, (one hand on each side) should stir up kundalinī with all his might from right to left often and often, for a period of two muhūrta (48 minutes), he should be stirring it up fearlessly. Then he should draw up a little when kundalinī enters sushumnā. By this means, kundalinī enters the mouth of sushumnā Prāna (also) having left (that place) enters of itself the sushumnā (along with kundalinī). By compressing the neck, one should also expand the navel Then by shaking sarasvatī, prāna goes above (to) the chest Through the contraction of the neck, prāna goes above from the chest Sarasvatī who has sound in her womb should be shaken (or thrown into vibration) each day. Therefore by merely shaking it, one is cured of diseases Gulma (a splenetic disease), jalodara (dropsy), plīha (a splenetic disease) and all other diseases arising within the belly, are undoubtedly destroyed by shaking this Śakti

I shall now briefly describe to you piṇḍāyāma Prāna is the vāyu that moves in the body and its restraint within is known as kumbhaka It is of two kinds, sahita and kevala⁴ One should practise sahita till he gets kevala There are four bhedas (lit, piercings or divisions) viz, sūrya, ujjāyī, sītālī, and bhaṣṭrī.

¹ The moving of sarasvatī nādi situated on the west of the navel among the 14 nādis (Vide Vāraha and other Upanishads)

² Sarasvatī is called also Arundhatī who is literally one that helps good actions being done and the wife of Rshi Vasishtha—also the star that is shown to the bride on marriage occasions

³ In exhalation, prāna goes out 16 digits and in inhalation, goes in only for 12, thus losing 4 But if inhaled for 16, then the power is aroused

⁴ Lit., associated with and alone Vide Sāndilya-Upanishad

The kumbhaka associated with these four is called sahita kumbhaka.

Being seated in the padma posture upon a pure and pleasant seat which gives ease and is neither too high nor too low, and in a place which is pure, lovely and free from pebbles, etc., and which for the length of a bow is free from cold, fire, and water, one should shake (or throw into vibration) Sarasvatī; slowly inhaling the breath from outside, as long as he desires, through the right nostril, he should exhale it through the left nostril. He should exhale it after purifying his skull (by forcing the breath up). This destroys the four kinds of evils caused by vāyu as also by intestinal worms. This should be done often and it is this which is spoken of as sūryabhedā.

Closing the mouth and drawing up slowly the breath as before with the nose through both the nādis (or nostrils) and retaining it in the space between the heart and the neck, one should exhale it through the left nostril. This destroys the heat caused in the head as well as the phlegm in the throat. It removes all diseases, purifies his body and increases the (gastric) fire within. It removes also the evils arising in the nādis, jalodara (water-belly or dropsy) and dhātus. This kumbhaka is called ujjāyī and may be practised (even) when walking or standing.

Drawing up the breath as before through the tongue with (the hissing sound of) ॐ and retaining it as before, the wise man should slowly exhale it through (both) the nostrils. This is called sītālī kumbhaka and destroys diseases, such as gulma, plīha, consumption, bile, fever, thirst, and poison.

Seated in the padma posture with belly and neck erect, the wise man should close the mouth and exhale with care through the nostrils. Then he should inhale a little with speed up to the heart, so that the breath may fill the space with noise between the neck and skull. Then he should exhale in the same way and inhale often and often. Just as the bellows of a smith are moved (i.e., stuffed with air within and then the air is let out), so he should move the air within his body. If the body gets tired, then he should inhale through the right nostril. If his belly is full of vāyu, then he should press well his nostrils with

all his fingers except his forefinger, and performing kumbhaka as before, should exhale through the left nostril. This frees one from diseases of fire in (or inflammation of) the throat, increases the gastric fire within, enables one to know the kuṇḍalinī, produces purity removing sins, gives happiness and pleasure and destroys phlegm which is the bolt (or obstacle) to the door at the mouth of brahmanūdi (*viz*, sushumnā). It pierces also the three granthis¹ (or knots) differentiated through the three guṇas. This kumbhaka is known as bhaṣṭrī and should especially be performed.

Through these four ways when kumbhaka is near (or is about to be performed), the sinless yogin should practise the three bandhas². The first is called mūlabandha. The second is called uddiyāna, and the third is jālandhara. Their nature will be thus described. Apāna (breath) which has a downward tendency is forced up by one bending down. This process is called mūlabandha. When apāna is raised up and reaches the sphere of agni (fire), then the flame of agni grows long, being blown about by vāyu. Then agni and apāna come to (or commingle with) prāna in a heated state. Through this agni which is very fiery, there arises in the body the flaming (or the fire) which rouses the sleeping kuṇḍalinī through its heat. Then this kuṇḍalinī makes a hissing noise, becomes erect like a serpent beaten with stick and enters the hole of brahmanūdi (sushumnā). Therefore yogins should daily practise mūlabandha often. Uddiyāna should be performed at the end of kumbhaka and at the beginning of expiration. Because prāna uddiyatē (*viz*, goes up) the sushumnā in this bandha, therefore it called uddiyāna by the yogins. Being seated in the vajra posture and holding firmly the two toes by the two hands, he should press at the kanda and at the place near the two ankles. Then he should gradually upbear the ṭāna³ (thread or nādi) which is on the western side first to udara (the upper part of the abdomen above the navel), then to the heart and then to the neck. When prāna reaches the sandhi (junction) of navel, slowly it removes

¹ They are Brahmagranthi, Viṣṇugranthi, and Rudragranthi.

² Bandhas are certain kinds of position of the body.

³ This probably refers to Sarasvatī Nādi.

the impurities (or diseases) in the navel. Therefore this should be frequently practised. The bandha called jālandhara should be practised at the end of kumbhaka. This jālandhara is of the form of the contraction of the neck and is an impediment to the passage of vāyu (upwards). When the neck is contracted at once by bending downwards (so that the chin may touch the breast), prāṇa goes through brahmanādi on the western tāna in the middle. Assuming the seat as mentioned before, one should stir up 'sarasvatī and control prāṇa. On the first day kumbhaka should be done four times, on the second day it should be done ten times, and then five times separately, on the third day, twenty times will do, and afterwards kumbhaka should be performed with the three bandhas and with an increase of five times each day.

Diseases are generated in one's body through the following causes, *viz*, sleeping in daytime, late vigils over night, excess of sexual intercourse, moving in crowd, the checking of the discharge of urine and faeces, the evil of unwholesome food and laborious mental operation with prāṇa. If a yogin is afraid of such diseases (when attacked by them), he says, "my diseases have arisen from my practice of yoga." Then he will discontinue this practice. This is said to be the first obstacle to yoga. The second (obstacle) is doubt, the third is carelessness, the fourth, laziness, the fifth, sleep, the sixth, the not leaving of objects (of sense), the seventh, erroneous perception, the eighth, sensual objects, the ninth, want of faith,¹ and the tenth, the failure to attain the truth of yoga. A wise man should abandon these ten obstacles after great deliberation. The practice of prāṇāyāma should be performed daily with the mind firmly fixed on Truth. Then chitta is absorbed in sushumnā, and prāṇa (therefore) never moves. When the impurities (of chitta) are thus removed and prāṇa is absorbed in sushumnā, he becomes a (true) yogin. Apāna, which has a downward tendency should be raised up with effort by the contraction (of the anus), and this is spoken of as mūlabandhū. Apāna thus raised up mixes with agni and

¹ The text is Anābhiam which has no sense. It has been translated as Anāstha.

then they go up quickly to the seat of prāna. Then prāna and apāna uniting with one another go to kundalinī, which is coiled up and asleep. Kundalinī being heated by agni and stirred up by vāyu, extends her body in the mouth of sushumnā, pierces the brahmagranthi formed of rajas, and flashes at once like lightning at the mouth of sushumnā. Then it goes up at once through viśhnūgranthi to the heart. Then it goes up through rudragranthi and above it to the middle of the eyebrows, having pierced this place, it goes up to the mandala (sphere) of the moon. It dries up the moisture produced by the moon in the anāhatachakra having sixteen petals¹. When the blood is agitated through the speed of prāna, it becomes bile from its contact with the sun, after which it goes to the sphere of the moon where it becomes of the nature of the flow of pure phlegm. How does it (blood) which is very cold become hot when it flows there? (Since) at the same time the intense white form of moon is speedily heated². Then being agitated, it goes up. Through taking in this, chitta which was moving amidst sensual objects externally, is restrained there. The novice enjoying this high state attains peace and becomes devoted to Ātmā. Kundalinī assumes the eight³ forms of prakṛti (matter) and attains Śiva by encircling him and dissolves itself in Śiva. Thus rajas-sukla⁴ (seminal fluid) which rises up goes to Śiva along with maruṭ (vāyu), prāna and apāna which are always produced become equal. Prānas flow in all things, great and small, describable or indescribable, as fire in gold. Then this body which is ādhibhautika (composed of elements) becomes ādhidaivata (relating to a tutelary deity) and is thus purified. Then it attains the stage of atīvāhika⁵. Then the body being freed from the inert state

¹ Twelve seems to be the right number of petals in the anāhata chakra of the heart, but the moon is probably meant having sixteen rays.

² The passages here are obscure.

³ They are Mūlaprakṛti, Mahat, Ahankāra and the five elements.

⁴ Here it is the astral seminal fluid which, in the case of a neophyte, not having descended to a gross fluid through the absence of sexual desire, rises up being conserved as a spiritual energy.

⁵ A stage of being able to convey to other bodies the deity appointed by God to help in the conveying of sūkshma (subtle) body to other bodies at the expiry of good actions which contribute to the enjoyment of material pleasures (vide Apte's Dictionary).

becomes stainless and of the nature of *Chit*. In it, the *aṭivāhika* becomes the chief of all, being of the nature of That. Like the conception of the snake in a rope, so the idea of the release from wife and *samsāra* is the delusion of time. Whatever appears is unreal. Whatever is absorbed is unreal. Like the illusory conception of silver in the mother-of-pearl, so is the idea of man and woman. The microcosm and the macrocosm are one and the same, so also the *linga* and *sūtrātma*, *svabhāva* (substance) and form and the self-resplendent light and *Chidātmā*.

The *Śakti* named *kundalinī*, which is like a thread in the lotus and is resplendent, is biting with the upper end of its hood (namely, mouth) at the root of the lotus the *mūlakanda*. Taking hold of its tail with its mouth, it is in contact with the hole of *brahmarandhra* (of *sushumnā*). If a person seated in the *padma* posture and having accustomed himself to the contraction of his anus makes his *vāyu* go upward with the mind intent on *kumbhaka*, then *agni* comes to *svādhishtāna* flaming, owing to the blowing of *vāyu*. From the blowing of *vāyu* and *agni*, the chief (*kundalinī*) pierces open the *brahma-granthi* and then *viṣṇugranthi*. Then it pierces *rudragranthi*, after that, (all) the six lotuses (or plexuses). Then *Śakti* is happy with *Śiva* in *sahasrāra kamala* (1,000 lotuses' seat or pineal gland). This should be known as the highest *avasthā* (state) and it alone is the giver of final beatitude. Thus ends the first chapter.

CHAPTER II

I shall hereafter describe the science called *khecharī* which is such that one who knows it is freed from old age and death in this world. One who is subject to the pains of death, disease and old age should, O sage, on knowing this science make his mind firm and practise *khecharī*. One should regard that person as his guru on earth who knows *khecharī*, the destroyer of old age and death, both from knowing the meaning of books and practice, and should perform it with all his heart. The science of *khecharī* is not easily attainable, as also its practice

Its practice and melana¹ are not accomplished simultaneously. Those that are bent upon practice alone do not get melana. Only some get the practice, O Brāhman, after several births, but melana is not obtained even after a hundred births. Having undergone the practice after several births, some (solitary) yogin gets the melana in some future birth as the result of his practice. When a yogin gets this melana from the mouth of his guru, then he obtains the siddhis mentioned in the several books. When a man gets this melana through books and the significance, then he attains the state of Śiva freed from all rebirth. Even gurus may not be able to know this without books. Therefore this science is very difficult to master. An ascetic should wander over the earth so long as he fails to get this science, and when this science is obtained, then he has got the siddhi in his hand (*viz.*, mastered the psychical powers). Therefore one should regard as Achyuta (Vishnu) the person who imparts the melana, as also him who gives out the science. He should regard as Śiva him who teaches the practice. Having got this science from me, you should not reveal it to others. Therefore one who knows this should protect it with all his efforts (*viz.*, should never give it out except to persons who deserve it). O Brāhman, one should go to the place where lives the guru, who is able to teach the divine yoga and there learn from him the science khecharī, and being then taught well by him, should at first practise it carefully. By means of this science, a person will attain the siddhi of khecharī. Joining with khecharī śakti (*viz.*, kuṇḍalinī śakti) by means of the (science) of khecharī which contains the bīja (seed of letter) of khecharī, one becomes the lord of khecharas (Devas) and lives always amongst them. Khecharī bīja (seed-letter) is spoken of as agni encircled with water and as the abode of khecharas (Devas). Though this yoga, siddhi is mastered. The ninth (bīja) letter of somāmsa (soma or moon part) should also be pronounced in the reverse order. Then a letter composed of three ams'as of the form of moon has been described, and after that, the eighth letter should be pronounced in

¹ Melana is lit., joining. This is the key to this science which seems to be kept profoundly secret and revealed by adepts only at initiation, as will appear from the subsequent passages in this Upanishad.

the reverse order, then consider it as the supreme and its beginning as the fifth, and this is said to the *kūta* (horns) of the several *bhinnas* (or parts) of the moon¹ This which tends to the accomplishment of all *yogas*, should be learnt through the initiation of a *guru* He who recites this twelve times every day, will not get even in sleep that *māyā* (illusion) which is born in his body and which is the source of all vicious deeds He who recites this five lakhs of times with very great care—to him the science of *khecharī* will reveal itself All obstacles vanish and the *devas* are pleased. The destruction of *valīpaṭṭa* (*viz*, wrinkle and greyness of hair) will take place without doubt Having acquired this great science, one should practise it afterwards If not, O *Brāhman*, he will suffer without getting any *siddhi* in the path of *khecharī* If one does not get this nectarlike science in this practice, he should get it in the beginning of *melana* and recite it always, (else) one who is without it never gets *siddhi* As soon as he gets this science, he should practise it, and then the sage will soon get the *siddhi* Having drawn out the tongue from the root of the palate, a knower of *Ātmā* should clear the impurity (of the tongue) for seven days according to the advice of his *guru*. He should take a sharp knife which is oiled and cleaned and which resembles the leaf of the plant *snuhī* (" *Euphorbia antiquorum* ") and should cut for the space of a hair (the *frænum Lingui*) Having powdered *saindhava* (rock-salt) and *paṭhya* (sea-salt), he should apply it to the place On the seventh day, he should again cut for the space of a hair. Thus for the space of six months, he should continue it always gradually with great care In six months, *Śīro-bandha* (bandha at the head),¹ which is at the root of the tongue is destroyed Then the *yogin* who knows timely action should encircle with *Śīro-vastra* (lit, the cloth of the head) the *Vāk-Īśvari* (the deity presiding over speech) and should draw (it) up Again by daily drawing it up for six months, it comes, O sage, as far as the middle of the eyebrows and obliquely up to the opening of the ears, having gradually practised, it goes to the root of the chin. Then in

¹ All these are very mystic.

three years, it goes up easily to the end of the hair (of the head) It goes up obliquely to Śākha¹ and downwards to the well of the throat. In another three years, it occupies brahmarandhra and stops there without doubt. Crosswise it goes up to the top of the head and downwards to the well of the throat. Gradually it opens the great adamantine door in the head. The rare science (of khecharī) bīja has been explained before. One should perform the six angas (parts) of this mantra by pronouncing it in six different intonations. One should do this in order to attain all the siddhis, and this karanyāsam² should be done gradually and not all at a time, since the body of one who does it all at once will soon decay. Therefore it should be practised, O best of sages, little by little. When the tongue goes to the brahmarandhra through the outer path, then one should place the tongue after moving the bolt of Brahmā which cannot be mastered by the devas. On doing this for three years with the point of the finger, he should make the tongue enter within then it enters brahmadvāra (or hole). On entering the brahmadvāra, one should practise maṭhana (churning), well. Some intelligent men attain siddhi even without maṭhana. One who is versed in khecharī mantra accomplishes it without maṭhana. By doing the japa and maṭhana, one reaps the fruits soon. By connecting a wire made of gold, silver or iron with the nostrils by means of a thread soaked in milk, one should restrain his breath in his heart and seated in a convenient posture with his eyes concentrated between his eyebrows, he should perform maṭhana slowly. In six months, the state of maṭhana becomes natural like sleep in children. And it is not advisable to do maṭhana always. It should be done (once) only in every month. A yogin should not revolve his tongue in the path. After doing this for twelve years, siddhi is surely obtained. Then he sees the whole universe in his body as not being different from Ātmā. This path of the ūrdhvakundalinī (higher kundalinī), O chief of kings, conquers the macrocosm. Thus ends the second chapter.

¹ Probably it here means some part below the skull

² Certain motions of the fingers and hands in the pronunciation of mantras.

CHAPTER III

Melanamantra — ह्रीं (Hrīm), भं (bham), सं (sam), षं (sham), फं (pham), सं (sam), and क्षं (ksham).

The lotus-born (Brahmā) said

O Śankara, (among) new moon (the first day of the lunar fortnight) and full moon, which is spoken of as its (mantra's) sign? In the first day of lunar fortnight and during new moon and full moon (days), it should be made firm and there is no other way (or time) A man longs for an object through passion and is infatuated with passion for objects One should always leave these two and seek the Nirāñjana (stainless) He should abandon everything else which he thinks is favourable to himself Keeping the manas in the midst of śakti, and śakti in the midst of manas, one should look into manas by means of manas Then he leaves even the highest stage. Manas alone is the bindu, the cause of creation and preservation. It is only through manas that bindu is produced, like the curd from milk The organs of manas is not that which is situated in the middle of bandhana Bandhana is there where Śakti is between the sun and moon Having known sushumnā and its bheda (piercing) and making the vāyu go in the middle, one should stand in the seat of bindu, and close the nostrils Having known vāyu, the above-mentioned bindu and the sattva-prakṛti as well as the six chakras, one should enter the sukha-mandala (viz, the sahasrāra or pineal gland, the sphere of happiness) There are six chakras Mūlādhāra is in the anus, svādhīsthāna is near the genital organ, manipūraka is in the navel, anāhata is in the heart, viśuddhi is at the root of the neck and ājñā is in the head (between the two eyebrows) Having known these six mandalas (spheres), one should enter the sukha-mandala (pineal gland), drawing up the vāyu and should send it (vāyu) upwards He who practises thus (the control of) vāyu becomes one with brahmānda (the macrocosm) He should practise (or master) vāyu, bindu, chitta, and chakra

Yogins attain the nectar of equality through samādhi alone Just as the fire latent in (sacrificial) wood does not

appear without churning, so the lamp of wisdom does not arise without the abhyāsa yoga (or practice of yoga) The fire placed in a vessel does not give light outside When the vessel is broken, its light appears without. One's body is spoken of as the vessel, and the seat of "That" is the fire (or light) within, and when it (the body) is broken through the words of a gurū, the light of brahmajñāna becomes resplendent With the guru as the helmsman, one crosses the subtle body and the ocean of samsāra through the affinities of practice That vāk¹ (power of speech) which sprouts in parā, gives forth two leaves in paśyanṭī, buds forth in madhyamā and blossoms in vaikhari—that vāk which has before been described, reaches the stage of the absorption of sound, reversing the above order (*viz.*, beginning with vaikhari, etc) Whoever thinks that He who is the great lord of that vāk, who is the undifferentiated and who is the illuminator of that vāk is Self, whoever thinks over thus, is never affected by words, high or low (or good or bad) The three (aspects² of consciousness), visva, taijasa, and prājña (in man), the three Virāt, Hiraṇyagarbha, and Īśvara in the universe, the egg of the universe, the egg of man³ and the seven worlds—all these in turn are absorbed in Praṭyagātma through the absorption of their respective upādhis (vehicles) The egg being heated by the fire of jñāna is absorbed with its kāraṇa (cause) into Paramātmā (Universal Self). Then it becomes one with Parabrahman. It is then neither steadiness nor depth, neither light nor darkness, neither describable nor distinguishable Saṭ (Be-ness) alone remains One should think of Ātmā as being within the body like a light in a vessel Ātmā is of the dimensions of a thumb, is a light without smoke and without form, is shining within (the body) and is undifferentiated and immutable

¹ Vāk is of four kinds (as said here) parā, paśyanṭī, madhyamā, and vaikhari Vaikhari being the lowest and the grossest of sounds, and parā being the highest In evolution vāk begins from the highest to the lowest and in involution it takes a reverse order, to merge into the highest subtle sound (Parā)

² The first three aspects of consciousness refer to the gross, subtle, and kāraṇa bodies of men, while the second three aspects refer to the three bodies of the universe This is from the standpoint of the three bodies

³ The egg of man—this shows that man in his formation is and appears as an egg, just as the universe is, and appears as an egg

The Vijñāna Ātmā that dwells in this body is deluded by māyā during the states of waking, dreaming, and dreamless sleep, but after many births, owing to the effect of good karma, it wishes to attain its own state. Who am I? How has this stain of mundane existence accrued to me? What becomes in the dreamless sleep of me who am engaged in business in the waking and dreaming states? Just as a bale of cotton is burnt by fire, so the Chidābhāsa¹ which is the result of non-wisdom, is burnt by the (wise) thoughts like the above and by its own supreme illumination. The outer burning (of body as done in the world) is no burning at all. When the worldly wisdom is destroyed, Pratyagātmā that is in the dahara (ākāś or ether of the heart) obtains vijñāna, diffusing itself everywhere and burns in an instant jñānamaya and manomaya (sheaths). After this, He himself shines always within, like a light within a vessel.

That muni who contemplates thus till sleep and till death is to be known as a jīvanmukta. Having done what ought to be done, he is a fortunate person. And having given up (even) the state of a jīvanmukta, he attains videhamukti (emancipation in a disembodied state), after his body wears off. He attains the state, as if of moving in the air. Then That alone remains which is soundless, touchless, formless, and deathless, which is the rasa (essence), eternal, and odourless, which has neither beginning nor end, which is greater than the great, and which is permanent, stainless, and decayless.

Thus ends the Upanishad

¹ It is the consciousness that becomes distorted and is unable to cognise free through the bodies.

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